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THE PLOT in a DREAM: OR, THE Henry Bradshaw DISCOVERER IN Masquerade. IN

A Succinct Discourse and Narrative of the late and present Designs of the *Papists* against the *King* and *Goverment*.

Illustrated with Coper Plates.

By PHILOPATRIS.

Fictæ Religioni ficta decent.

LONDON:
Printed and are to be sold by most Booksellers, 1682.

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THE PLOT in a DREAM: OR The Diſcoverer in Maſquerade.

CHAP. I.

The Author *in a* Viſion *travelling over the* Petropolitan *Countries, arrives at* Strombolo *(the ſuppoſed place of* Purgatory*) in company with ſome* Petropolitan *Travellers; There they met with an* Apparition *talking to it ſelf about the preſent* Plot; *A pleaſant paſſage of the fright the* Petropolitans *were put into by the* Apparition, *and their flight upon it. The* Apparition *proves to be* Phileroy, *the* Diſcoverer *of the* Plot, *and an acquaintance of the Author's; upon renewing their acquaintance,* Phileroy *diſcourſes with him concerning the* Plot, *and of his end in coming thither,*

which was to attend a Consult *there holden by the* Great Bishop *and his* Emissaries, *about carrying on their Designs against* Albonia : *Their arrival at the place of the* Consult : *A description of the place : The Author placed in* Phileroy's *Apartment, where* incognito, *he takes his Observations.*

BEing naturally delighted in reading of Forein Peregrinations and Observations of the different Manners and Customs of strange Countries, I was one night musing upon such Subjects, till sleep (the Ape of Reason) had dispossest me of my considering faculty, and turn'd it wholly into Imagination and Fancy ; by the force of which on the sudden I was carried into the Hysperian Countries, where having staid a small time to remarque some most noted Observables of that *Catholick Region* (methoughts) I approacht towards the Seacoast, and finding a Vessel ready, did (having agreed for hire) therein imbarque my self for *Italy*, the principal of the Petropolitan Countries, and thence to return again to Christendom, having past the Fretum Gaditanum, and entred into the [illegible], we were by force of Winds

carried

carried to the utmoſt parts of Italy, amongſt the burning Iſlands; the chiefeſt of which is Strombolo, commonly affirmed by the Petropolitans of thoſe Countries to be the Jaws of Hell, and that therein the damned ſouls are tormented; here, notwithſtanding the frightfulneſs of ſuch Reports, we were forced to put in for a Refuge againſt the Storm; and having landed our ſelves at the foot of that burning Mountain, I and ſome of our Company had a mind to aſcend it, to ſee the curioſities of that feigned Incendium. We had by leiſurely and winding Aſcents arrived to near three parts of the way, when in a ſolitary by-way amongſt a queach of buſhes, we diſcovered ſomething in the ſhape of a black man, ſoftly moving before us; I and my company were, I muſt confeſs, ſomewhat ſtartled and ſurprized to ſee any thing like humane in that deſolate and uninhabited Region, and therefore concluded it muſt be ſome Devil or other that was ſent out as a Scout to ſurprize ſuch unwary paſſengers as our ſelves; or elſe ſome poor Purgatory Soul (that by the power of Maſſes) had got leave to cool himſelf in the open Air: My Company were at the point of turning back a ain

in a fright, but I perſuaded them againſt it, telling them; if it were the Devil, it were more ſafe to reſiſt him, than to fly; whereupon they all beſides my ſelf being Petropolitans, began to croſs themſelves amain, to rattle their Beads, and to mutter over their *Ave Maries* at ſuch a rate, that for my part, though I could not forbear ſmiling at their folly, yet I was more afraid of ſuch their ridiculous incantations, than of the ſuppoſed Devil: The beſt on't was, all this while his back was towards us, and his poſture rather ſtanding than progreſſive, taking his ſteps ſo leiſurely, as if ſome weighty notions in his head had retarded the motion of his heels: By this means we hop'd to avoid his ſight of us, and proceeded forward, when on the ſudden we heard him (who had hitherto kept ſilence) break out into theſe expreſſions, which he utter'd with ſomewhat a low, but earneſt voice, and plain enough to be heard [Oh Albonia, Albonia, Dear Albonia, What will become of thee?] The Company heard the words as well as I, but underſtood them not, being ſpoke in the Albonian Language, which being my own native Dialect, made me wonder much more, and to be more attentive to

what

what follow'd, which after a ſhort pauſe was this; Here's a Plot indeed with Hell and deſtruction at the beginning and end on't--Now the Devil take the Plot, and Hell take Devil, Plot, Plotters, and all, I'le get rid of them as ſoon as with ſafety I can, and diſcover, and then let their Devilſhips do their worſt, I will put my ſelf under the protection of the Albonian Prince, & defie their malice; and as I have now opportunity to know, I ſhall be then as well able to countermine their deſigns. Theſe expreſſions I heard and underſtood, but were as myſterious to me as a Delphian Oracle: My Company were ſurpriz'd too, to hear what they underſtood not; and imagining by my attention, and ſome alterations they diſcerned in my looks, that I might underſtand the Lingua, they deſired me for once to be ſo kind to them, as to be Interpreter for the Devil; but I excuſed my ſelf with a Pardonnemoy Meſſieurs; I told them I had not been bred up long enough in the Infernal Countries, to underſtand any more of their Lingua than themſelves---The truth is, hearing talk of Plots, and my own dear Native Country of Albonia named, I was unwilling (till I could be bet-

ter informed) to discover any thing to them, that I knew as they were Petropolitans, were Enemies to us. But however, with the muttering noise we made, the Apparition turned about, and look'd at us: I confess when I saw him move, I was afraid I should have seen the Devil's Countenance, that like Medusa's head, should have turn'd us all into Stone, or Changelings; but seeing him look with an humane Form and Visage, I took heart of grace, and stood my ground till he came nearer to us; but then standing still, and looking stedfastly and grimly upon us, he spake to us in the Hyperian Language, which my Company then understood thus: Sirs, What are you? Whence come you? What make you here in the Luciferian Territories, which is ground not for Mortals to tread upon---These words were Thunderbolts to our Company, who without any other reply, fell to crossing and blessing themselves as before, expecting nothing but presently to be devoured--or to have their Souls shaken out of their Bodies, and carried directly to Limbus--But his next words were yet more dreadful, when he told them, That he was Bailiff to the Infernal Lord of those Countries,

tries, and that his office was to seize upon all Waifs and Strays that he found there as forfeits to the Lord of the Soil, that finding us such, his commission was presently to uncase us of our Bodies, and to faggot up our Souls together, and carry them to Limbus. Dreadfully did these words sound in the Ears of the poor trembling Petropolitans, who needed no other disanimation than their own fears, who thus hearing their doom, and knowing no way to avoid it, did pitifully request one boon only of the Apparition before their seizure, That he would give them leave to return back to their Vessel, that brought them thither to send away Letters to their friends to say Masses and Dirges for them (when in Purgatory) for their releasment. This their request, urged with their pitiful looks and behaviour, was at last granted upon their solemn Parole given of returning back to the same place, as soon as they had sent away their dispatches; and leaving one of the Company in hostage for the return of the rest, and for this we were to cast lots, which we did; and the Lot fell upon me--- The truth is, I had no such pretence to make for my self as they had, and joyned

not with them in theirs: I had ſecurity of better means to preſerve my ſelf againſt the Infernal Powers, than Maſſes and ſuch ſopperies: Neither indeed did I much dread them, having a ſtrong perſuaſion grounded upon reaſons beſt known to my ſelf, that this whole Scene which appeared to them ſo **Tragical**, was no other than meer **Figment** and deluſion. Well, thus I was left, and my Companions having received their **Manumiſſion**, turned down the Hill ſwifter than they intended to return, which indeed they never did, as the **Apparition** upon our after-acquaintance told me pleaſantly he expected not they ſhould; notwithſtanding they had pawn'd their Words and Oaths to boot for it; for he told me their Religion was ſuch, that they could eaſily diſpenſe with ſuch things; and as they ſtick not to break their words with Hereticks, ſo neither would they keep it with the Devil himſelf, except it were to ſerve him on their own deſigns---*Timor addidit alas*, the ſource of a Torrent from the fall of a precipice was not more ſwift than their motion in their retreat, they ran as if the **Devil** (indeed) had drove them. After they were gone, and I left alone with my

Guar-

Guardiano---I perceived his Eyes ſted-faſtly fixt upon me, but knew not the meaning of it, till he reſolved me by the kindneſs of an affectionate Embrace, and calling me by the term of his dear Friend and Countryman Philopatris, and at the ſame time upon more ſtrict obſervance of his voice and features, I knew I was in the Arms of my old Friend Philetus---I was glad, you may conceive, to find an old Friend in a New Soil, which (upon his requeſt) I informed him how I came to Land upon, with a ſhort Hiſtory of my Adventures in the Neighbouring Countries; but being eſpecially deſirous to know how things ſtood in Albania, I ſatisfied him that I left all things well, that we enjoyed the benefit which our Neighbours round about us were deprived of, of a ſecure and happy Peace---God grant it be ſo, quoth he, and that it may continue. But I fear it will be too ſoon diſturbed by that Curſed Plot that is now hatching againſt them--Hearing again the name of a Plot, I could not be much diſturbed in my mind, till I underſtood what he meant by it. I knew Philetus of old to be no Flaſh, or one that would ſpeak things unadviſedly, or at Random, and therefore deſired him at once to heal

my fears and curiosity, by explaining his meaning---But what, quoth Philerop, Is indeed the name of a Plot so strange a thing to you, that you seemed so surprized at the hearing of it? Heard you no rumors of it in Albonia before you left it? Not a word, quoth I--nor any suspicion or jealousies, replied he, of a Party there lurking upon design to take off the Prince, and subvert the Government? "Forbid "it Heavens, quoth I again, (then in a "great passion) That our Dear Albonia "should harbour any such Vipers in her "Bowels. You know full well, Dear "Philerop, how well we are secured a-"gainst any fears of such Attempts by the "graciousness of the Prince, and happy "Constitution of the Government we "live under: It is Tyranny and Oppres-"sion that first raises discontents, and then "puts factious spirits upon designs of Re-"bellion; but as there are no such "grounds amongst us to provoke to "such designs, so we the less fear any "to attempt, except the Devil himself "should raise any Cursed-Instruments that "out of meer Envy to our happiness, "should go about to destroy it. To sup-"pose any such Intestine Monsters lurking "amongst our selves, that should go about

"to

" to disturb that blessed Peace and Tran-
" quillity we enjoy, were to conclude men
" Enemies to their own good, as well as
" their Country's, in whose welfare they
" are joynt-sharers. You know we are an
" United Christian Kingdom under a
" Christian Prince, whose prerogative it
" is to be *Scutum Fidei* both to us and
" the Christian World: And though it be
" our unhappiness to have some Parties a-
" mongst us, that out of respect of Con-
" science do dissent from others in some
" lesser matters, relating to Modes and
" Ceremonies of Worship, yet as the
" Principles of that Religion (wherein
" we are all united) does bind them; so al-
" so, the clemency and moderation of our
" Prince has farther obliged them to
" their duty and obedience by those in-
" indulgencies which he has graciously al-
" lowed them against the severities of
" the Laws against them. And though
" contrary to the Princes inclination,
" some ill men have gone about malici-
" ously to exasperate some of them by
" forcing the Edge of those Laws against
" them; yet the Experience of now above
" twenty years, has confirmed us, that
" there hath no such Plots or Attempts

" on

" on their parts been attempted. And this " Philetoy is so well known to you, that " I may suppose these are not the Parties " you mean for the Plotters---No, replyed Philetoy, yet those persons that are the real Plotters, have laid their design so, as to endeavour to represent them such, and so to Sham it off themselves--- But seeing we are so happily met in a strange place, and have opportunity to discourse things so material to the welfare of our selves and Country; let us quit our Station, and walk on; for I know you have a curiosity of seeing that place, which your timorous Companions are so glad they are freed from. I will discourse these things more fully to you by the way, and withal the reason of my coming hither, and stay here; with all my heart, cryed I--- So we proceeded, he leading the way through solitary by-paths, still leisurely ascending. We had not gone far, nor entred into any farther talk before we were attacqued with the noise of a great shout from the top of the Flaming Mountain, and after that a roaring kind of noise, like the bellowings of a Bull; at which I startled, being frightfully possest with an apprehension that I should be put

to

to encounter with Monsters or Devils, if I proceeded farther. I expected indeed that my Friend Philetop (that I knew was neither Witch nor Conjurer) should be scared as well as I--but instead thereof I was surpriz'd to see him fall into a loud fit of Laughter, asking me pleasantly what was the matter? The matter (quoth I) Are you so danger-proof to make a jest of these things? Heard you not the shouts and hollowings just now over our heads, together with the bellowings of a Bull: For my part I am apt to think now indeed, that I am in the Devil's Country, and that some of his Scouts, having discovered our Arrival, are gone to inform the Garrison of it, to come and seize us: Courage man (replyed Philetop still laughing) I thought you, being a Christian, had been Devil-proof, tho your Companions, the Petropolitans, were not; you are more afraid than hurt, I will assure you: And to evidence this to you, I will endeavour to release you from your frights and astonishments by this short Narrative, wherein (to prevent farther questions) I will first acquaint you with the Cause of my coming hither; you know, when I left Albania about two years since,

ſince I deſigned to travel into the Petropolitan Countries, not to learn their Religion, but to obſerve their Manners, and to ſatisfie my curioſity concerning their Policies, and thoſe things which are ſo commonly reported of them in our Country. Having with little ſtay poſted over the Adjacent Countries, I came to Petropolis it ſelf, the place where I intended to make my Reſidence; there the Arch-Flammin, or Great Biſhop of the Petropolitans keeps his Court; I had a great deſire to inform my ſelf of the preſent State of it, and of thoſe grand Affairs that were there managed relating to the Petropolitan-Weal, by the Grand-Biſhop and his Scarlet Senate. But this being a thing difficult, you know, for a Chriſtian to enterprize amongſt profeſſed Enemies, I had learned ſo much of their Arts, as to conceal my Religion, and to profeſs my ſelf one of theirs, conforming my ſelf in all places to the ſame Modes and Cuſtoms as they did; and by this ſtratagem inſinuated my ſelf ſo far into the good Opinion, not only of the People, but the Prieſts themſelves, that at laſt I was perſuaded by them to take upon me a Religious Habit; then I thought my ſelf a fine

fool

fool indeed; but having ſo got a cloak for my knavery, I thought I ſhould thereby have the better opportunity to diſcover theirs, and ſo indeed it happily fell out; for by this means being lookt upon as a Brother of the Petropolitan-Tribe, I had the more freedom to be preſent at their Conſults and Meetings, which I quickly underſtood to be then managed principally againſt Our Dear Country of Albonia. Nor (although I was well known by them to be a Native of that place) were they any wiſe jealous of my company, or debarr'd the freedom of theirs, looking upon Renegades, (ſuch as they took me to be) to be moſt ſerviceable to their Deſigns and Intereſts.

They had now by the influence of their great Biſhop fully reſolved upon the ruine of our Albonian State, whoſe happineſs in our Religion, and that civil peace we enjoyed, had been ſuch a continual eyeſore to them; And to accompliſh this the better, Lucifer their old Friend is to find them with fit Inſtruments, to carry on their treacherous Deſigns, ſuch as ſhall not ſtick or boggle at the greateſt Villanies, the ſubverſion of our ancient Laws and Religion, the deſtruction of our Towns,

Towns and Cities, the maſſacreing of their Inhabitants, and (which is more than all and the moſt likely means for them to make a full Conqueſt of us) the aſſaſſinating of our dear Prince, in the preſervation of whoſe ſacred Life conſiſt the Securities of our own Lives, Liberties and Religion; This is the work they had cut out for their helliſh Inſtruments to diſpatch for them--Here I interrupted him having heard him thus far with the greateſt terror and amazement imaginable--- But what quoth I, if they ſhould ſucceed (which God in mercy prevent) to take away the life of our gracious Prince, what would they be the nearer, when the next immediate Succeſſor, ſhall by his Authority at once Revenge their Treaſons paſt, and prevent their Deſigns to come againſt us--- That's true indeed, replied Philetop, could we be ſecure of a Chriſtian Prince to ſucceed in the Government; but to prevent that, they have by their wicked Agents already made ſure of him, that is preſumptively to ſucceed, by ſeducing him from the Religion of his Country, to the Petropolitan Faith, whoſe future Authority thereby ſo neceſſarily obliged to their Intereſts, inſtead of being

a Terror

a Terror, is become their greateſt encouragement in their Proceedings. This they look upon as their Maſterpiece and very ground-work of their Conſpiracy: And having gained this great point by ſecuring one that ſhall be true to their Intereſt, their next work is to make way for him by taking away the life of our preſent Sovereign, to carry on which curſed deſign (as the Devil has helped them with Agents enough, and fit enough for their purpoſe) ſo now they are at this time ingaged in deep Conſults, how to manage them in their Attempts of it. And becauſe they would (in a matter of ſuch Secrecy and importance) be the more private in their Conſultations. The great Biſhop and his Counſel, and Agents have choſen this place as moſt fit for their purpoſe, where they have been retired for ſome daies in the ſooty apartments of the Luciferian pallace, which is the place I ſhall preſently diſcover to you; it lies at the very mouth of the ſulphureous Gulph, underneath which, they ſay, is the place of Purgatory: The great Biſhop holds himſelf by vertue of his Popes Lieutenant of this fiery Garriſon, and has thence ariſing a very great Revennue for fees of releaſing

releasing tormented Prisoners out of it; and this they rather chose for the place of their Caball, that they might have their great Friend and Oracle Don Lucifero present at their Consultations; I accompanied them hither, not out of any great desire I had to give the Devil a Visit, but to observe the Progress of their Designs; upon which they have been now these 3 daies in close Consultation; This morning being quite, quite wearied and almost stifled with heats and clamour, I stole away from my Company to recruit my Spirits with a little fresh air, and taking the next solitary path I met with, I walked on musing upon these matters, and contriving with my self, how I might make means to prevent their Proceedings by a timely discovery, which I resolved to do, as soon as possibly I could with any safety to my self, get loose from them. In the midst of these cogitations it was, that you found me in that solitary place and posture; and glad was I so happily to meet one with whom I can with freedom discourse of those things, that have been so long burthensom to my thoughts---And now dear Philopatris having given you an account of the occasion of my stay here, you shall

ſhall bear me company back to the Conſult, where you ſhall your ſelf be a Witneſs of what is acted amongſt them. And this you may do without fear or hazard, being in my company, and pretending your ſelf to be a Petropolitan, and one of my Friends and acquaintance, you ſhall fare no worſe than I do, and have as good entertainment as Purgatory can afford, I will aſſure you; I thank you for your kindneſs replied I, (ſmiling at the conceit of it;) No queſtion but the entertainment muſt be extraordinary where the Devil is the Hoſt and his Imps the Servitours; but if we come to Table with him, I hope we ſhall have long Spoons to eat our broth with; I know not (quoth Philerot) what length your Spoons are of; but I will ingage your Commons ſhall be ſhort enough---diſcourſing thus together, we were come almoſt to the pitch of the Hill. When we were alarum'd with another great Shout like that before. I asked my friend if he knew what it meant; he told me, he ſuppoſed it was occaſioned by a Bull which they had deſigned to ſend over into Albonia, and were that morning preparing him for the voyage, with Swords, Piſtols and Fire-bolts faſtned about him (like the Bulls

in

in the Bear-garden harneſſed with Crackers and Serpents) which were deſigned for ſome diſmal Execution; I hope ſaid I when he comes there, he will be baited to ſome purpoſe: No doubt on't replied Philetus, and I hope my ſelf ere long to be one of thoſe that ſhall worrie him--- He is to roar out Excommunication againſt the Prince, and Threatnings (of no leſs than damnation) againſt ſuch Subjects as ſhall dare to Obey him contrary to the great Biſhop's Pleaſure; but as curſt Cows are ſaid to have ſhort Horns, ſo have their Bulls too, too ſhort to do miſchief, let them make what noiſe they will; Our Chriſtian Albonians neither value nor fear them--- But Whiſt--- no more of this, leſt we hap to be diſcovered by ſome of the Centries that are poſted up and down about this place---See yonder's one ſtands ready to examine us--- and with lifting up mine eyes (upon the very brow of the Hill) I ſaw an ugly, black, Grim-look'd Fellow, with a Muſquet on his Shoulder, and Match in his Hand, who, upon our nearer approach towards him, cried out, Stand---Who are you---Friends, replied Philetus, (and with that privately ſhuffled a Roſary of Beads with a Crucifix into my hand, which he bid me put

in my Pocket) We are Friends I tell ye; But how shall I know that (saies the Devil's Officer) I know you (Philerop) well enough; but who is the other with you---An Honest Fellow, replies my Friend, I will engage for him---An honest Fellow, saies the Centry---What should he do here, you know this is no place for such Persons---What have we to do with Honesty- he looks like an Heretick, be he what he will, I will have him before the Inquisition--- Soft Friend, quoth Philerop, you are mistaken in the man, I tell you he is a Friend and a Petropolitan, which he shall make appear to you by his Certificate, and with that he whispered me in the Ear to produce the Beads to him, which I did, and thereupon he let us pass--- I was afraid by this passage (as I told Philerop) that Honesty being so much abhorr'd in that place, I should by some looks or gestures pretending to it, betray my self to their Suspicion, and so incur their Censures---But for that he told me, I must learn to dissemble as well as he, when I came amongst them; to lay off my natural Serenity, and to assume a distorted, furious, and troubled Visage--- This I thought I might easily be forced to do, when I

came

came amongst such a company: The apprehension of which, methoughts had already altered my very form and I questioned not (as I told him) but if I stayed any time with them, I should be so far bewitch'd by their Society, as to look as ugly as themselves. One Caution more he gave me, that I should have my Rosarie alwaies in sight, either in my hand, or at my Girdle, as a badge of the Religion; but because I did not much care to handle such Sorceries, I chose to have them hung dangling at my Girdle---And thus on the sudden I was turned Friar in Masquerade---And wishing my self good luck in the Adventure we proceeded till we came to the very gates of Limbus. Horror itself cannot express the dismalness of that place, it is seated in the midst of a little Plain, about a furlong over on the highest top of the Burning Mountain, the flames of which in several places from the Caverns and Hollows of the Earth, (caused by their irruptions) brake forth in an hiddeous manner, and darkned the Sky with mighty Clouds of sulphureous Smoak and Vapour arising from them: The passage to the Infernal Pallace lies through a hollow Way descending from the surface

some

ſome few paces to a great pair of Gates that gives Entrance to it; here we arrived, and my friend Philetop knocked at the Wicket: But it ſeems they were very cloſe at their buſineſs; for we ſtood a conſiderable time before we could gain Admittance---- At laſt one of them came and opened the door, holding it in his hand, till he had taken a full view of us; and ſeeing (by the glimmering of a Lamp that was ſet over the door for ſuch purpoſes) who it was, Philetop was preſently admitted, who taking me by the hand, endeavoured to pull me in after him; but the ſuſpicious Fiend would not ſuffer that, till I was fain to ſhew him the baubles at my Girdle; and that Philetop had aſſured him that I was a friend of his, and a Petropolitan; then I was admitted, and taking faſt hold of Philetop, ſtumbled along through a blind Entry, ſo rough and declining withal, that I think if it had not been for Philetop, I had broke my Neck before I had come to the end of it; but he being better acquainted with the paſſage, bore me up ſteady, till he brought me through it into a very large Room, as big for its dimenſions as the Vatican at Petropolis; the place

was ſultry hot, as a Dutch Stove, or rather much hotter. inſomuch as I was fain preſently to rip ope my dublet, and fall a breathing like a Fiſh out of water, expecting to be ſtifled forthwith, if I could not get in ſome mouth-fulls of Air into my gaſping Jaws to relieve me; and yet that very Air I did ſuck in, was ſo ſultry and ſcalding, as made my very lungs to boil like a Pot over a Furnace: Beſides, the Room was all over ſo full of ſtinking Smoak and Vapour, that there was no poſſibility of ſeeing any thing, or diſtinguiſhing one perſon from another, had it not been for a numerous company of Candles, that were ſet up and down round about it, the flame of which ſeemed to me to look of a blood-red colour (as we ſee the body of the Sun ſometimes to look in miſty Weather.) I was afterwards informed by Philerop, that theſe Candles were compounded of the Greaſe of humane Bodies, taken out of the Maſſacred Carkaſſes of the poor Martyrs of Ireland, or the Tories Country, and reſerved as choiſe Ware for the ſpecial uſe of the Conſiſtory.—We made no ſtay here to make any Obſervations, the room was indeed full of People or Spirits walking up and down and

making

making a croking noiſe, like Frogs in a quagmire; but Philerop ſeeing me begin to make ugly faces (as he adviſed me, though for the heart of me I could not help it) concluded the purgatory Air did not well agree with me, wherefore haling me along through the croud, he brought me without ſtop or ſtay to the end of the Room, where at one corner of it, was a little Wicket, which with a Key that he took out of his pocket, he preſently opened and led me up an aſcent of ten or a dozen Steps into a little Cell, which he told me was his own Apartment, aſſigned him for his repoſe and Conveniency, during his ſtay in that place: This was ſomewhat cooler than the place we came from, having a little fontinel in it, which brought in the air from the top of the Mountain. This did wonderfully refreſh me (being almoſt ſtifled before) ſo that now I began to look about me, and to conſider where I was, and what I had to do here: I had a great curioſity (ſeeing I had proceeded thus far) to diſcover the manner of their Conſults, and to underſtand their proceedings upon it; but was loth to become a Martyr to my own fancy, by ventring my ſelf again into that ſultry Region; but for that, my

Friend told me he would take care of a place where I ſhould ſee and hear all paſſages, without expoſing my ſelf to ſuch inconveniencies; and accordingly at the corner of his Cell he ſhew'd me a little window which looked into the **Court**, and where we might plainly ſee and hear every thing without being diſcovered our ſelves, or the leaſt notice taken of us. I was very glad of the opportunity, and preſently planted my ſelf ready to make my diſcoveries getting **Philerop** (who ſtood by me) to be my Interpreter, in explaining every thing to me.

CHAP. II.

CHAP. II.

A View of the Company attending the Conſult. *The Deſcription of* Heraclitus; *the Deſigns of him and his party. The Furniture of the* Conſult Room *with reliques of* Saints *and Pictures, as, namely, one of the Maſſacre at* Paris, *another of that in* Bogland. *The Deſcription of a company of Scriblers and Pamphleteers concerned in the Plot, particularly of one called the* Diſcoverer. *The Entrance of the* Great Biſhop *with his company, and the form of their ſitting deſcribed; upon proclaiming of ſilence, they are interrupted by the clamours of ſome Souls in* Purgatory, *that were broke looſe, exclaiming againſt the* Great Biſhop *for his ungratefulneſs to them for their Services and ſufferings. The lame Apologies he uſed to excuſe himſelf. Their Remiſſion back to the place of puniſhment.*

THe Room, as I ſaid before, was very large and ſpacious, and yet full of Company walking to and fro, as they do at the Exchange, and talking together

with much warmth and earneſtneſs, with ſtretching out the hand, thumping the Breaſt, and looks compoſed to ſo much auſterity, as ſomewhat exceeded the natural gravity of the Spaniard, tho thoſe Majeſtick Don's we know are the moſt ſolemn and grave in their deportment, of any other. Only one fellow I obſerved much to be admired, being both in his habit and carriage different from all the reſt of the Company; his habit was party par pale, the one Moietie of his Harkaſs from head to Toe, was dreſt up in the Spaniſh Mode, with all the formal habiliments of a ſtrutting Don, with Beaver cockt, and arm a kimbo; the other half of him was on the contrary accoutred in a moſt ridiculous dreſs, like the Knave of Clubs, in Coat and Hoſe, with an hanging Sleeve, made up of patches of more various colours than a Taylor's Cabbage-bed, or a Party-coloured Cuſhion, on that ſide of him, he wore a Cocks Feather in his Hat, and other mimical and antique accoutrements; He was of himſelf an ugly ſquinting fellow, whoſe Eyes look'd nine waies at once, and that which was more ſtrange in him, his looks were as much diverſified as his habit; for look upon him on his

Spaniſh

Spaniſh ſide, and his look was compoſed to a demure and ſupercilious gravity, rather frowning than otherwiſe; but look upon him on the other ſide and his face was all ape and ridicule, and his Jaws drawn up into the form of laughter, all ſop and foolerie. I was much pleaſed with the humour of this compounded Animal, but could not tell for the life of me what to make on't, except a Jack-a-lent, having ſeen Puppets ſo called in Albonia, patch'd up in that manner. But Philerop better informed me, that it was the great Biſhops Jeſter, and that he called himſelf by the name of Heraclitus---That, ſaid I, methinks is a very improper Title for a man of mirth, (as Jeſters ſhould be) Heraclitus we know was all over ſober ſadneſs, nothing of ſop in him; That's true replied Philerop, but this Fellow acting both knave and fool has taken upon him a double part accordingly, which you ſee he repreſents both in the garb and geſture. He pretends himſelf a Tragi-comedian, and acts both Jeſt and Earneſt, upon which account he might as well have compounded his name as his humours, and called himſelf Heramocritus, it would have ſounded in my mind much better, however as ſtrange a Crea-

ture as he appears to you. He is lookt upon here, as a very ſerviceable inſtrument for the Promoting the Petropolitan Intereſt; being one of thoſe Faction-mongers (of whom there are a great many in this place) that betwixt jeſt and earneſt are to create diviſions, and ſet the Government and People at odds one with another; thus when he is in ſober earneſt, his ſerious part is employed only about dreams, and ſtories of a former Rebellion long ſince acted in Albania; of which though the Actors are long ſince dead, and their crimes almoſt forgotten, yet this politick Whifler would needs perſuade the Government that the Ghoſts of thoſe Rebels are revived under a new form to act their old parts over again; and by this means to divert the Magiſtrates from all ſuſpicion of the Petropolitan party, and to believe the Albonians themſelves to be the Plotters againſt their own Country; And thus his ſerious part is made up of meer fiction and foolery, but his fooling part is compounded on the contrary of things of a moſt ſad and ſolid nature (enough to make a true Heraclitus to weep In earneſt (the fear and troubles of the People about the Events of this helliſh Conſpiracy,

Conſpiracy, now on foot againſt them all which (his part is to turn into droll and ridicule, and to perſuade the People, that their **Governours** do but laugh at them for their fooliſh fears; and that that is all the remedy they will afford to prevent them-- And by this way he deſigns to jeſt the People into hard thoughts of the **Government**, and ſo to ſet them one againſt another. Well, having received this account of **Heraclitus**, I thought him not worth any further regarding, ſo let him paſs on in his jocular huff to divert my eyes with ſome other proſpects: But here I muſt not omit to acquaint you (before I paſs further) with the furniture of this **ſooty Pallace**; there were hanging againſt the **Walls** of it, in ſome places, the **Reliques** of ſome of the **Petropolitan Martyrs**, which the **great Biſhop** and the **Conclave** for their zealous ſervices and ſufferings had cannoniſed with **Saintſhip**; in one place was a **Knife** hanging beſmeared with blood, which **Philerop** told me was the inſtrument wherewith **Ravillaic** murthered **Henry the fourth of France**, and for that fact tormented to death (as he deſerved) with moſt exquiſite tortures; next to that was

placed the dark Lanthorn of Guido Faux the Albonian Traitor, that was to have blown up the Senate House, with the Assembly of the two grand Estates and Royal Family in it, had not Providence by a Discovery in a very strange manner prevented the Design, for this Fact he received a deserved punishmenr, but was afterwards at Petropolis Sainted for it---there was also hanging by a thred a Ball, in resemblance of the Fire-balls wherewith the Petropolitans lately since had destroyed the famous City of Londinople the Metropolis of Albonia; the principal Author of which, was afterwards hang'd, though the rest by the means and interposition of some great Interests, for that time escaping, are yet reserved for a future Vengeance---Besides these were hanging several pictures the designs of which particularly Philerop explained to me. One of them was a representation of a most horrid Massacre, acted within the circuit of a great and populous City by the Bloody-thirsty Petropolitans distinguished from the rest by Crosses and other signatures; the slaughter was so great, and the Villanies and Cruelties there acted (which the Painter with great Art had

had moſt lively decipher'd) ſo notorious, as made me ſhrink with horror at the ſight of it. This he told me was intended for the Maſſacre, at Lutetia, of the poor Hugenot Chriſtians. A piece of ſervice eſteemed ſo meritorious and grateful to the great Biſhop and his Conſiſtory, that they order'd a Jubilee to be obſerved for it, with many other Expreſſions of Joy and Triumph for ſo glorious an Undertaking.

The next I obſerved was that of another Maſſacre or Slaughter like the former, but varied (if poſſible) with cruelties of a more ſurpaſſing nature than other; the Painter indeed in this piece had plaid his part ſo well that all the moſt bruitiſh and barbarous Villanies that were ever acted in the World, ſeemed to be crouded together in this model. The Scene of this Tragedie was a large and ſpacious Country (yet environ'd every way with the Sea) full of Lakes, Fens and Marſhes, and very woody in ſome places. Here was to the Life deſcribed a crue of Bloody Ruffians (bearing the Petropolitan colours) roving up and down the Country, like ſavage Tigers with Inſtruments of Death in their hands, wherewith they killed and deſtroyed all they met with. In ſome places We

might ſee Cities and Towns weltring in deſtructive flames, while the diſtreſſed Inhabitants flying out of the Gates for the preſervation of their Lives, have falln upon the Swords of their Enemies; and ſo loſt thoſe lives which by their flight they endeavoured to ſave. Otherwhere were ſeen thoſe bruitiſh Villains gratifying their beaſtly Appetites in raviſhing Women, ſtripping of them, and ſo driving them together in herds (naked as they were) to the bogs and Rivers to drown them. Some were pictured wreſting the tender Infants from their Mothers Breſts to ſlay them, and then ſpitting them upon their Pikes to carry them about in that manner as trophies of their Cruelty. Theſe Slaughters (as they were there deſcribed) were ſo Univerſal, that the whole Country ſeemed but one Aceldama, or field of Blood. The Scene of this Tragedy I underſtood was Bogland or the Tories Country, and this was the Deſcription of the horrid Maſſacre there acted ſome years ſince within our memorie, and much feared (as Philerop told me) to be acted over again by the treacherous Petropolitans, who ſwarm in that Iſland, and notwithſtanding the Country is a Colony or Tributary

Province,

Province belonging to the Albonian Prince: yet neither the tutelage of his Government, nor all the Reliefs and Aids he can afford them for their Defence and Security, have been sufficient to preserve them from the restless Attempts of their Petropolitan Enemies; who, said he, are at this day as busie in their Designs as ever, for the Ruine of that poor Christian Country; and it is one part of their present Consults in this grand Conspiracy either by secret Treacheries, or open Force by the Assistance of the Franconian Monarch and other of the great Bishops Friends, to reduce that Province to the Obedience of the Petropolitan Chair; and this Island is looked upon as the most likely to begin with for the reducing of Albonia it self, with the rest of its dependant Provinces. The Albonians having a Proverb currant amongst them to this purpose:

He that would Albonia win
Must with Bogland first begin.

This Picture in a very large frame was hung up at the end of the Room, just ouer against the great Bishops Chair, who ('tis said) from thence uses to take a Prospect of it with much Delight and Satisfaction, often applauding the Religious

Zeal

Zeal of the Petropolitan Tories in those inhumane Slaughters by them committed upon the poor Christians, with such Sacrifices I perceive the Devil and the Gr. Bp. are alwayes well pleased.

There were several other Pourtraits which I would have perused, but was diverted by a sudden bustle, that was made by the company at the coming of two persons with great Sachels at their Backs, which they threw down upon a long Table at the end of the room, and thence took out several fardels of Paper Books, Parchments with Seals, Standishes, and other things necessary for the Consult. It seems this was the place where the great Bishop and the Consistory were to sit; who having for some time retired themselves to their apartments there adjoyning, were now returning, and these Harbingers coming before to prepare for them, was the occasion of this bustle: For immediately upon their appearing, I perceived the Company that were before promiscuously mingled together, to separate themselves into several parts according to their distinct Orders and Capacities, and took their several Stations up and down the rooms, where they stood together ready against

against they ſhould be called upon by the Council to receive their Orders. 'Twas ſtrange to obſerve how this great Body, that were ſo lately united, were on the ſudden dwindled away into ſo many diviſions; whereupon I told Philetus, I marvelled, that the Petropolitan Church that pretended ſo much to Unity, ſhould admit of ſo many fractions! That's no wonder, replied he, there are by far many more different parties amongſt them than you ſee here; and yet all this makes no Schiſms amongſt themſelves; for they are but ſeveral Limbs of the ſame Body, and agree well enough together in this grand Affair; and their ſeparate Companies argue no breach amongſt them; but are intended to cauſe Breaches and Diviſions amongſt their Enemies the Albonians, as you ſhall hear preſently when their Inſtructions are read to them. Near to the great Table where the Council were to ſit, was a ſide Board of an Oval Form, round about which were a company of Scribes perpetually ſcribling and blurring Paper, they were moſt of them in Albonian habits (as were ſeveral others about the place) only they had the Beaſt's Mark upon them for a diſtinction.

I ſtood

I ſtood amazed to ſee and conſider, that ſo many of my own Countrymen ſhould (ſetting aſide Religion and Allegiance to God and their King) be ſuch Apoſtates as to be concerned in ſuch an horrid and curſed Deſign as was here on foot againſt their own Country. But what cannot the Devil and his dear Viccar do with ill minds, that have firſt given up themſelves unto their Service? I was curious to know what they were, and what it was that their Pens were ſo buſily imployed about. Philcrop preſently reſolved me, that they were a ſort of men that were ambitious of being counted the Wits or the Thinking-men, (forſooth) a company of frothy Sotts! That all the thoughts in their Skulls are not worth the breaking of a Pullets bone to know them) their Employment was to compoſe Libels, Lampoons, Drolls, Farces, Viſions, Characters, Dialogues, Appeals, Diſcoveries, and ſuch like fuſtian Pamphlets, wherein they were with their utmoſt endeavours to promote the Petropolitan Intereſt; either by vindicating their Innocency (upon any diſcovery) by ſome impudent Lyes and Falſhoods, or palliating their crimes by ſubtle and ſophiſtical diſcourſes;

discourses; whereby to amuse the Unthinking herd into a misbelief of them, or else by wheedling insinuations to reflect the Plot upon the Albonians themselves as the proper Authors and Agents of it, or (whether these Stratagems succeeded or not) they were still to vindicate the Right and Title of the Albonian Duke, whose Succession to the Monarchy they knew would make good all their Interest; this he told me was their business: And subservient to them were another Company (none of Apollo's Birds) but Mercuriists or Intelligencers, whose work it was to impose upon the Vulgar all manner of fictitious Trash, Lyes, and Stories, under pretence of news, to create Faction and Sedition amongst the rest. he shewed me one far different from the others, he called himself the Discoverer; a Fellow that pretended he could see many foot deeper into a Millstone than all the World besides; a politick Cockscomb, that writes nothing but Palinodes and Rehearsals of things done in the days of his Grand-Father. All his news are but repetitions of old things in Forty One and Forty Two, which the Politooke Gentleman would persuade you is the very

Plot

Plot now in Being. The Devil himself (said Philerop) the other day could not forbear laughing at the pretty odness of this Fellow's humour; and to say the truth, this whole pack of whifling, trifling, scribling Pragmaticos, are no other than a select company of mercenary tools, that his Devilship has pickt up for the service of the Grand Vicar and the Petropolitan cause. Well, I had enough of this Discovery, and before I could proceed to make any farther observations. The Pageant came in (to wit) the Grand Vicar with his attendants, which consisted of Cardinals and other Ecclesiastical Dignitaries of the superiour Orders. Before him came an Officer to make way, an ill favoured black Creature whether humane or Devil I know not: But he made a great noise and busle in preparing a passage, crying out, make room for the great Bishop and the Conclave. The great Bishop was not at this time (I perceived) in his Pontificalibus, or attired in that sumptuous manner, which he uses to appear in at Procession, or in giving Audience to Ambassadours; but in a plain black Gown, as a colour most agreeable to the Place and Business: Yet for the

greater

greater grace of the matter, his reverend Bald-pate was covered with a **Tripple Crown**; the **Pontife Crosier** in his Hand, and his **Keys** at his Girdle, together with his **Rosarie Crosses** and other trinkets. Before him were carried three Crosses of ingraved Work, and imboſt very richly: after him followed firſt the **Conclave of Cardinals** in black alſo, only with red Hats and Taſſels hanging down from them. Amongſt this number I ſpied out one that I knew to be our Countryman, and of no mean rank of the Nobility in **Albonia**: After theſe followed the mitered Clergy in their proper Habits, ſeveral of which had this Inſcription upon their Miters, viz. [**Titular**] theſe **Phileroy** told me, were a kind of **ſine Cures**, upon whom the **Great Biſhop** had beſtowed Titles of ſeveral Biſhopricks in **Albonia** and **Bogland**, with free leave to take poſſeſſion of them as ſoon as they could get them into their hands, by means of this **Plot**, or any other way whatſoever. Ay marry, ſaid I, they are good fiſh when they are caught indeed; but I hope the Fiſher (as the great Biſhop ſtiles himſelf) nor thoſe his Anglers will be ever able to hook any thing of that nature, while

while our King continues Lord of the Soil, whose undoubted right it is to have the donation of those places: next followed a company of mixed Orders, some of them being Ignatians, others Franciscanes, and others Benedictines, all of them in the several distinct habits of their Order: These I understand were a fraternity of a distinct faculty, that had a Commission from the G. B. *ad propagandum fidem*, for propagating (I should have said perverting) the faith, these made up the whole board, who after the Gr. Bp. had seated himself in his Chair at the upper end of it, did severally take their places according to their Rank and Precedencies, after the order they observed in their coming thither. I wondred something at it to see so much Order observed in a place of Darkness and Confusion, but I was told by my Friend, it was a thing not so much to be admired, that those ambitious Church-men, that stood so much upon their Priviledges upon Earth, should hold their precedencies as well here--- They were no sooner seated, and the Companies in the Room beginning to draw about them, but proclamation of silence was order'd to be made, which was accordingly

ingly done by that ugly creature that was their Harbinger to the Board (whose Office Phileron told me was to be Keeper of the Purgatory Prison, and the Infernal Vaults underneath that place) with a solemn O Yes--But no sooner was Silence thus proclaimed, but it was as suddenly broke by a lamentable and hideous Out-cry, which put the whole Court into a frightful amazement; it came, it seems, from some of the Purgatory Captives, who in the absence of their Keeper, had stole up to a private Door, that led into the Court Room; and understanding that his Unholiness was then there Sitting with the Conclave, they set up their Acclamations, crying out, Release, Release, Thou Old Sot that pretendest to have the Keyes of this place at thy Girdle, if thou hast as much power to let out, as to let in, why dost thou not come thy self and discharge us, seeing it is for thy sake, and those Treasonable services, that to gratifie thy Ambition we performed against our Native Prince and Country, that we are come into this misery, to be first hang'd on Earth for Traitors, and then punisht here as sinners. Are these the rewards? Is this the Elizium thou promisedst us---

us---O curſed Cheat? and then they fell a howling in a horrid manner---This unexpected Out-cry gave the Gr. Bp. a deadly Flea in his Ear, as we might perceive by the coming and going of the colour in his countenance; for as Philerop told me—(ſmiling at it) he knew the Viccar muſt needs be dreadfully netled at it, to have ſuch a clamour ſo ſurprizingly break out againſt him in the hearing of thoſe that were now attending upon the like ſervices with which thoſe his Priſoners had ſo reproached him for rewarding them no better; and he might juſtly fear hereupon that his new Serviteurs upon ſuch a diſcouragement, would be but cold in their ſervices when they were to be ſo hotly rewarded—however his unholineſs perceiving there was ſo much notice taken of their words, as to cauſe a muttering, and almoſt a mutiny amongſt the Company—he was put ſo to his Trumps, that he ſate a while as in a ſtund; but at laſt bethinking himſelf of an help at a dead lift, he riſes up and declares to the Company, that the Authors of that clamour were a pack of Lying Villains to aſperſe him with ingratitude, for that their ſervices to him had been rewarded before

this

this time (and ſhould be hereafter if they behaved themſelves accordingly) to their content in the place of happineſs [that is, thought I with my ſelf, The **Fools Paradiſe**] but that they came not hither upon any account of their ſervices performed for him, or defect of merit in any ſuch ſervices to ſecure them from coming into ſuch miſery; but that their ſlipping it there contrary to their own expectation, and his promiſe, muſt be occaſioned either by their concealing and dying in ſome **mortal** ſin, without receiving **Abſolution** for it; or elſe they had at their death (tho they ſuffered as **Martyrs** at the Gallows in the Churches quarrel) confeſſed ſomething that tended to the prejudice of the **Churches** Deſigns & Intereſt, which they ought rather flatly to have denyed, or by ſome feigned Æquivocations to have concealed rather than the Church ſhould ſuffer by their plain confeſſions: One of theſe two he told them muſt needs be the cauſe of their coming into that place of miſery: And therefore by the way, he gave it as a Caution to the Newlifted **Reformado's** there preſent that had offered their ſervices in his and the Churches quarrel [in the preſent deſign]

to

to be couragious to the death; and if ever they ſhould upon their diſcovery come to the honour of Martyrdom, that they ſhould not (to ſave their Lives) betray the Churches Deſigns by any ſneaking confeſſion which might turn to their prejudice, which if they did, they might be in danger of coming into the ſame condition that theſe poor wretches were in; but if on the contrary they perſiſted couragiouſly to vindicate the Cauſe, tho they denyed the Truth, the Crime of the Falſhood (being for the Churches Service) ſhould be pardoned, and themſelves rewarded—both with Saintſhip here, and immediate Felicity in the other World—But as for thoſe poor Souls that by their own folly had loſt the merit of their Services, and brought themſelves into that place of miſery, he bade their Keeper (whom he firſt checkt for his negligence) to go back to them, and aſſure them, that after this grand buſineſs was over) he would order a Jubilee to be kept in order to releaſing them and their fellow-priſoners.

This latter part of his Oration he ſpake with an Elevated Voice, much louder than the former, intending (as I fancied) that it ſhould

ſhould reach the Ears of the Purgatorians; but the former part he ſpake ſo low, that the Company in the Room could hardly underſtand him; this he did purpoſely, that thoſe Apologies that he made for ſuffering them to come into that place, might not be underſtood by the Priſoners, leſt they ſhould reply upon him, and return him back the Lye he had given them; which he knew might poſſibly occaſion ſuch broyls between them as might make the place too hot for him to ſtay in (tho it were warm enough already.) The Priſoners I perceiv'd by their preſent ſtilneſs, were attentively liſtning to what he ſaid, but I ſuppoſed heard but little, except (what he intended they ſhould) his cokeſing concluſion; immediately upon which their ſurly Gaoler, with Hell and fury in his countenance, and Keyes gingling in his hands, runs back to the door, which which he ratled open, and with a good Cudgel that he carried with him, fell upon the poor Slaves, and beat them back again to their Infernal Stations, telling them by the way, That he would make them dearly ſuffer for this their inſolent miſdemeanour, for which, had it not been

for

for his Unholineſſes Goodneſs, he might have loſt his Place and Office.

CHAP. III.

The Gaoler *that carried back the* Priſoners, *gives an account to the* Court, *of the Merits of their Sufferings, that one of them, a* Carthuſian, *died of the wound he received by the loſs of his Teſticles cut off by the Husband of a woman whom he had abuſed; ſome deſcants upon the paſſage. The Speech of the* Great Biſhop *to the Aſſembly at the opening of the* Conſult *about the Deſigns of the* Plot; *ſome deſcants between the* Author *and* Phileroy *upon it. The* Petropolitan Secretary (*who ordered the buſineſs of the* Conſult) *deſcribed; calls over the ſeveral Parties concerned in the* Conſult, *beginning with the Commiſſioners* ad propagandum fidem, *declares to them the* Great Biſhop's *Decree to them againſt* Albonia; *their Inſtructions read to them. A Deſcription of the* Seminaries. Phileroy's *diſcourſe to the* Author *of the Original of this* Fraternity, *and the Hiſtory of their Proceedings. Laſtly, Their Inſtructions for the Service.*

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I Queſtion not but he was as good as his word to them; for a little after, we could hear them (though not ſo liſt as before) howling and yelling in a pittiful manner; after he had ſecured his Priſoners, he returns back to the Court in a great heat, puffing, and rubbing the ſweat off his greaſie Brows dripping upon his fiery Noſe: after he had panted a while and recovered breath enough to give an Anſwer, I heard the Great Bp. ask him, who thoſe Priſoners were that had occaſioned the Uproar; for that they pretended themſelves to be Martyrs for the Petropolitan Cauſe, which, if it were truly ſo, they ſhould be taken into Conſideration, and rewarded with Canonization if they deſerved it--- I know not, replied the Gaoler, whether their deſerts will reach ſuch a Reward or no, but muſt leave that to the diſcretion of your Unholineſs and the Conclave. I will give you an account only of the bare matter of Fact, for which they came hither. The King-leader of them, that mouth'd it ſo fiercely againſt your Unholineſs, is a meer cock-gelding, an unteſticled perſon; He was upon Earth a Carthuſian Brother, who, in Obedi-

ence to his Order (which I suppose he intends to be the Merit of his Sufferings) having kept himself out of the Yoke of Matrimony, did, for the necessary Relief of Nature, take occasion sometimes to root in his Neighbours Inclosures: But one time amongst the rest happening to light upon a pretty spot of Female-ware, belonging to a Butcher; the Husband, whether he had any suspition of it, or whether it were by accident, unfortunately broke in upon them, and finding the sign in Aries, without consulting farther he took this fit season for the gelding of such kind of Cattle; wherefore to cure him of his Calenture, he was resolved to phlebotomize him, which with his slaughter-knife he did, applying it to the *Sedes Morbi*, and castrating him so close, that together with a torrent of blood, that followed upon the amputation, his lecherous Soul, after some dismal Screeks and Ave Maria's uttered, was released from his Body, and came limping hither, whining more for the loss of his Mistress than for the pains he had suffered. I saw the poor thing was so chill with the loss of blood, that to comfort him, I put him into one of the hottest baths we had, where

where after he had ſweat a while, I asked him how he liked Purgatory, and whether the place were warm enough for him; he told me, he had been in ſome purgatories on Earth, that were as hot as this, namely, when he frequented the Stews at Petropolis amongſt your Unholineſs's licenſed Courtizans, where he was once burnt by a [illegible] ſo terribly, that had it not been for the skill of an able Mountebank, he might have ſaved the Butcher the labour of Caſtration; but ſince he came hither, he has been pretty well fluxt for it. And this, ſo far as I know, is all the reaſon of his pretence to Martyrdom; the Services he has done for the Mother-Church, being his Endeavours (*ad propagandam prolem*) or getting Baſtards for their keeping, which he looks upon as a Work ſo meritorious, that he hopes (conſidered together with his Sufferings upon that account) your Apoſtleſhip will not fail to remember him for it at the next inſtalment of Martyrs.---And is this the ſervice he boaſts of? (quoth the Grand Vicar.) Out a pon't, this will not do: Our Mother-Church has too many ſuch Baſtards already in her keeping, except we could enlarge her Reve-

nues to make better provision for them. What! (said I then to Philerop) I perceive the poor Purgatorian is like to lose his Expectations of Saintship: Yes, yes, said he, that he will indeed; there is nothing carries it in such cases, but what tends directly for the Interest of the Papal Chair; but that being sufficiently supplied already with Nephews of the blood, has no need of any other assistances of that nature, however had this Lecherous Fool been so lucky to have committed Treason, when he did Adultery, by taking away the life of an Heretical Prince, and been hanged for his pains, he might have been Red-lettered before this time, both with Saintship and Martyrdom. This tragicomical passage so unexpectedly intervening, caused no small noise amongst the Company, muttering one with another whatever came into their minds to say about it; insomuch that the Vicar was forced to order another Proclamation of Silence to be made, which was done accordingly with three solemn Cries as before; after which the Great Bishop rising up from his seat, began a Speech to the Assembly (that now began to gather about him in a posture of Attention)

Attention) in this manner. 'Worthy Petropolitans: The Design of our meeting here at this time is well known to you, to be for the reducing of that Rebellious, and Heretical Province of Albonia, to the Obedience of the Apostolick Chair, from which it hath long since departed, by a schismatical Separation; and having thereby not only cast off their Allegiance unto us (to whom as St. Peters Successor all States and Kingdoms in the World do owe an undeniable Subjection) but also sacrilegiously robbed the Church it self of its Incomes and Revenues; All which they have converted to their own use and benefit: We have out of the constant Zeal for the promoting of the Glory and Interest of the Petrovolitan Empire, and to regain so considerable a part of our Patrimony, as are by those Hereticks detained from us, resolved to leave no means unattempted till we have fully subdued that Rebellious People and either brought them back again to their duty to us, or so consumed them, that they shall not have a name left upon the Earth; and for you (our dear Children) that have so dutifully and freely offered your selves

to our ſervice, and to become the Miniſters of our Revenge upon them. Be courageous and proceed with Vigour in this great undertaking, you ſhall not want either Encouragements or Rewards; let your valour and Reſolution appear as evident for the ſubduing theſe Enemies to the Eccleſiaſtick State, as ever the ancient Romans did for the Enlargement of their Empire. We go not to ſubdue them with open Force or Strength of Armies; thoſe Hereticks being that way too hard for us, as we experienced when our Catholick Son ſent out his invincible Navy to invade them; but were by thoſe ſtubborn Albonians in a ſhort time miſerably overthrown and ruined. Their Fleets and Armies are ſo powerful, as keeps the whole Europian World in awe of them; ſo that it is to no purpoſe to attempt by any ſuch means to ſubdue them: but what cannot be gained by Strength, muſt be done by Policy and ſecret Contrivances; for which end we have now the faireſt opportunity in our hands, that we could wiſh for, to encourage our Proceedings, ſufficient to redeem all thoſe former defeats, that we have ſuffered by them; We know the time is yet freſh in memory,

memory, when those that the World could not subdue, were destroyed by themselves by an Intestine Civil War, created by their own Factions, but fomented and carryed on by our Petropolitans; this flame could not be extinguished but by the blood of their own Prince and Soveraign, who was sacrificed to the revenge of the insulting Vulgar before the Gates of the Imperial Palace. This Fact contributed no little to our Designs, while our Party, many of them siding with the Prince against the Rebels (as it was either their interest, or necessity then to do) did thereby take off the suspicion of the Treason from themselves, and left it upon the Factions, who by that means have rooted such Jealousies and Suspicions in the Government against those Factions, that (as we by Our Agents amongst them have and do continually improve the Argument) they shall be sooner suspected of Treason and Disloyalty, than their Enemies the Petropolitans; there are those heats and feuds (as the effects of that Civil War) yet left amongst them, as 'twere easie for you by stirring up the grounds of their Old quarrel, to work into them another

Rebellion, or to keep their Divisions open so wide, as to afford a fair way towards it. Albonia (says one of their own Writers) is a great Animal that can no waies be destroyed but by killing it self; let us but put swords into their hands, and they are mad enough to thrust them into their own sides--- *Divide & impera* is a true Maxim in Policy; Divide them a while, and we may come in time to rule them. Now then it is the opportunity presents it self fairly to our hands; we need not make Divisions amongst them, but only keep them open; the Order of their Church is disturbed by Dissenting Parties. Mingle your selves disguisedly amongst those Herds; foment their differences; incense them against the Government by suggesting fears of troubles and persecutions from them. And at the same time stir up the Government against them, to increase the provocation. Thus keep the Body Politique in a posture of Opposition, till they fright one another into fightings, and then will we come and part Stakes between them.

In the mean time, while we disease the Body, let's strike at the Head; the former

mer remedy may be chronical, this must be fatal; the Petropolitan Church acknowledges no Head besides our self: And seeing the Albonian Princes, since their Apostacy from us, have usurped that Title to themselves, by arrogating a peculiar Jurisdiction and Supremacy over the Churches within their Dominions; It is necessary that such Heads be lopt off, that so the body may be again united to its proper one the Petropolitan Vicar: And therefore I adjure you all by that Obedience, that you owe to me and to the Apostolick Chair, that you will by all means imaginable, according to your several powers and Capacities, endeavour to cut off the present Heretical, Albonian Prince, as the neareſt and likelieſt means for us to attain our ends in reducing the Albonian Countries to the obedience of our Government; which meritorious fact, when once it is accompliſhed, we have already taken care, that the next Succeſſor shall be one true to our Intereſt, and a Petropolitan; one that we have proſelyted to our Religion, and such an one, that tho the People deteſt him for his faith, yet muſt admit him upon his right to the Government of thoſe Kingdoms.

doms. And besides this, the better to facilitate your proceedings, we have engaged our dear Son of Franconia the most Petropolitan King, to assist you both with Men and Moneys upon all occasions to carry on your designs. We have farther issued out our Bull of Excommunication against that Heretical Prince of Albonia, thereby (by vertue of our Apostolick Power) depriving him of his usurped Title to the Albonian Countries, and absolving the Albonians (his Subjects) from their Duty and Allegiance to him, under pain of our highest Displeasure and the bittrest Curses we can inflict upon them, And such of them as out of an holy fear of our Indignation shall observe our Pleasure in this particular, by turning Traytors to their Prince, to become Friends to us and our Interest, shall not only have our Dispensations and Indulgencies granted to them for so doing, but shall have the Benefit of our sacred Benediction, and such rewards as the merit of their doings or Sufferings shall require. And now (our dear Friends and Children) if these Encouragements be not sufficient to animate you in your proceedings, yet let the Interest of your Mother-Church

(which

(which ſhould be dearer to you than your very Souls) provoke you to it; Conſider what a goodly part of St. Peter's Patrimony is kept from us: That Albania whoſe fruitful ſoil and large revenues did ſometime plentifully enrich both our own Coffers and our Clergies purſes, a Country once ſo piouſly devoted to the Churches Intereſt, that the beſt and greateſt Eſtates within it, were hallowed to divine Uſes; Our Levites had not only the Tenths but (rather) Nine parts in Ten ſet apart for them; What goodly Monaſteries, Abbies, and Religious places were there founded? how richly endowed? how large their Revenues? All which upon their Apoſtacy from our Church were by Edicts of that Heretical Tyrant Hen. 8. ſacrilegiouſly taken from the Clergy and devolved into the hands of the Lay-People; They yet enjoy them, but the right is ours; nor can any Antiquity of preſcription or Authority of Records ſo ſuperſede our Title, but that the right is ſtill in us if we can but gain the Poſſeſſion of them. Ay (my Lads) win them and wear them; turn out thoſe heretical Robbers, and poſſeſs their places, the Inheritances of your Fa-

thers

thers. We have of our Apostolick bounty freely given the Land amongst you; destroy the Canaanites, that brood of Hereticks that enjoy it; a Peop'e accurs-ed by us. Balaam was by a divine hand restrained from cursing the Israelites; but nothing shall restrain us from cursing them as a Nation devoted to destruction; We have given you full power to be the Executioners of our Vengeance upon them, to kill their Persons, destroy their Cities, possess their Lands, and to rule and reign over them. And lastly if all this be too little, I conjure you by the blood of your Martyred Ancestors, that have been hang'd like Traitors for their Zeal in this holy quarrel; and by all those Severities and Persecutions that you your selves have suffer'd from them, that you now take a full and fierce revenge upon those wicked Albonians: If you succeed in your Attempts you have the booty for your Reward. If you miscarry in them yet shall you not be unrewarded, while we your Father have a Blessing left for you: your Sufferings shall be rewarded with Martyrdom, and your selves with Happiness. We give you our Apostolical Benediction, and so go on and Prosper.---

And

And here the Grand Viccar concluded his Oration, seating himself again in his Chair, and puffing for Breath, as having almost spent himself with his over earnest delivery: For my part I was glad of his close, being as much wearied with hearing, as he was in speaking such horrid and bloody matters against my own Country. I perceive (said I to Pitleroy) the Grand Bishop can sometimes play the Devil for Godsake, here is a pretty Scheme of Treason and Rebellion covered over with Religion. But what shall we do for our Lands when we return home again, seeing his Viccarship has now so frankly given them away from us to his Petropolitans. We must e'en Petition our new Masters for the favour to be their Bailiffs over our own Demesnes, and be contented to exchange our Rents for Wages. Soft there (replied Pitleroy) we are not brought to that pass yet; to let them Ride while we are in the Saddle: We have yet eleven points of the Law in our own hands, let them have the twelfth and make the best on't: Their Title to Heaven, and to our Lands are grounded much alike upon the Promises of the Great Prophet, who is most

most liberal in giving away those things that he hath no right to himself, although the proud Prelate claims the same prerogative over us, as the Israelites of old (by God's special Commission) did over the reprobate Heathens, whose Countries (by Covenant with their Fathers) God gave to them; or as he hath done over the poor Americans, Millions of whom by his Authority been have slain and murdered, to make way for their Conversion, but more truly to gain their Possessions: Yet till he can make out such another Title to our lands as the Jews did to the Canaanites, by some Feoffement or Deed of Gift from the supream Owner, let him make what Grants of them he pleases, or to whom he pleases, he shall give us leave to hold our proprieties as long as we can. He must first buy them and pay dear for them too before he has them: And as for the Church-Revenues in the hands of the Albonian Clergy, we can plead an antiquity of Prescription before them, or that the Petropolitans had any thing to do amongst us. We had a Christian Prince before ever they had a Christian Bishop, that by vertue of a Universal Monarchy could lay

claim

claim to any Homage from us: And until our King and Country shall come to pay their fealties to him again, our Tenures are such, that the Fee and Homage are inseparable, and he shall never gain the one without the other. Well here we broke off our parly to make our Observations of the following passages. The Great Bishop, as I said before, having finished his Oration, some of the Company began to shout, others hum'd a little, the rest were silent. But after a little pause of some few minutes, they all fell close to their business; the several parties being gradually called up to the board to receive their Instructions and Commissions; which, by the Great Bishop's Order, were particularly delivered out to them by one that sat at the board not far from him. This person, by his looks and habit, seemed to be an Albonian, I asked Philerop if he knew him; he told me yes, That he was indeed our Country-man, the Son of an Albonian Divine, and that having a liberal Education bestowed upon him in one of the Albonian Academies, and one of a strong and quick apprehension, he having an humour of Travelling (to satisfie his Curiosity) into the Petro-

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politan Countries, was there amongst the learned of that Religion so far insinuated into by their subtle Arguments and perswasions, that he was proselyted to their faith, and thereupon had in great esteem amongst them, as one that by reason of his great parts and abilities might be a very fit Instrument for them to make use of in their Designs; for which the better to qualifie him, they got him into the service of a great Prince's in Albania of an Italick Family, and a Friend to the Petropolitans, where he might conveniently hold correspondencies by means of hers, and the Great Duke her Husband's Interest, with such Princes and States as were friends to the Petropolitan Interest. And in this Capacity, having by some signal services already obliged them, they have thought fit to choose him their Secretary in this grand Consult, and intrusted him with the management of the most principal matters relating to their present Designs.

This person thus deciphered by Philetor, I perceived, was very busie in tumbling over and sorting the Papers and Parchments that lay before him, which he disposed into several parcels, ready to be distri-

distributed to those that they particularly belonged to, which having done, he proceeded to call over the several parties to receive their Orders, and first began with the Commissioners or Congregation (as they call it) *de propaganda fide*, for propagating the faith; of which number was the Great Bishop himself, the Scarlet Senate, the Mitred Men or Bishops, (most of which were the Titulars) upon whom the Viccar had conferred the promotions of several Bishopricks in Albonia and Bogland, and appointed for their principal the noble Albonian Cardinal as his Legate and Procurator, in his Vicarship's name to take possession of the Albonian Territories: Besides these Were included in the same Commission, several of the superior Orders of the Clergy together with some eminent persons of the Laity, all which were by their Names and Titles distinctly called upon, and answered to it in their places, they all sitting about the board where the Gr. Bp. was present: Then he took up an Instrument and read to them signed by the Gr. Bp. wherein he declared [*That all the Albonian Dominions and Territories were part of St.* Peter's *Patrimony, as forfeited*

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to the Holy See, for the Hereſie of the Prince and People, and ſo to be diſpoſed of as he ſhould think fit.] This ſhort Declaration it ſeems was their grand **Charter**, by which they were to proceed in their Deſigns. Then next he read over to them a Paper containing **Inſtructions** to direct them in their Proceedings to this effect; That they ſhould take upon them the ſuperintendency and Government of all the inferior Conſults, to direct them in their **Managements**, to appoint their **Stations** and Order of **Meeting**: to receive Advices from them, and give out **Orders** thereupon; to grant Licences, Indulgences, and Diſpenſations by the grand **Vicar's** Authority (as his **Delegates**) where they ſaw occaſion for them; to keep Correſpondencies by **Legations** and **Miſſives** with ſuch **Princes**, States, and Perſons of Eminencie, as were known Friends to the **Petropolitan** Intereſt; that they were from this place to adjourn themſelves over to St. **Omers**, which being an **Academy** and Nurſery of Learning, they were there to found a **Colledge** or Seminary for the training up of Youth in the **Petropolitan** Religion, and in the Arts and Policies of the **Petropolitan** State

State, ſo to fit them for their Services; when ever they ſhould have occaſion to imploy them, either in Albonia, or other places; here they were for the future to keep their grand Conſults, to ſend out their diſpatches, and to receive advices, the Effects of which they were from time to time to ſend over to his Vicarſhip at Petropolis in Order to the receiving ſuch farther Order and Direction from him as he ſhould think fit. This was the Sum of their Inſtructions, which was then in Writing delivered up to the noble Albonian Cardinal for the uſe of himſelf and the reſt in Commiſſion with him. Next to theſe was called up to the Board another party by the name of Seminaries, (ſowers or ſeeds-men) there drew up a great number of them all in religious Habits, with Baskets on one Arm, and throwing the other Arm about in the poſture of one that ſcatters Seed before the Plow. I wondred what the Devil was the meaning of this humour, I thought this burning Soil was too hot and parched to nouriſh any Seed that ſhould be caſt into it. But it ſeems all this was but a figure or repreſentation of their Name and Office; For asking Philerop the meaning

of

of these Actions, and who they were that performed them, He told me they were the great Bishop's Planters or Seeds-men that he employed to cultivate all those Lands that the Vicar laid claim to, as any part of his Patrimony, and to sow them with the seeds of the Petropolitan Doctrines and Discipline (this is their pretence) but indeed rather to sow the seeds of Sedition, Treason and Rebellion, in the heads of the Unthinking Vulgar, whose thick, and soft Skulls they make use of as a fit ground for such dissaminations; and these you see here, are now designed upon the same Employment into our Country of Albania-- How, said I, into Albania? Nay then--and here without prosing it farther, my Indignation against these Varlets threw me into a poetical fury, which I expressed thus---

If this be true,
Curs'd be the Vicar *and his* seeding *Crue;*
Never may Heav'n *on their endeavors smile,*
That thus their Seed *sow in another's Soil;*
But blast their Crop, *and all their* Pains *despair,*
That go to sow *their* Tares *among st our* Wheat.

And

And while among us they design to sow
Their Treasons, may the Devil speed the (Plow,
And When they've done, pay them their (*Wages too.*
And they that sow false Doctrine *and Delu-* (*sion,*
May they again reap Halters *and* Confu- (sion.

Philetus smiled at the fancy, but could not but be surprised to see me fall into such an unusual rapture, asking me what I ail'd, and whether the warmth of the place had made me hot-brain'd or no? I told him not so much that, as the warmth of my own Zeal justly kindled at the sight of those Religious Monsters, that not content to brood, and spawn in their own corrupt and putrid soils, must go about to spread their infection in the wholsome air of our reformed Countries.---However I desired Philetus (while their Commission was reading to them, which I did not much mind) to discourse to me something of the Order and Constitution of this Religious Fraternity, which (at my request) he readily performed in this manner; These Seminaries, said he, were an Order of Priests at first instituted by

by a Country-man of ours, one Alanus, a Petropolitan Cardinal, about the latter end of the reign of their grand Enemy, our unparallel'd Christian Princess Elisa, by whose successful care in the Reformation of Religion, the Petropolitans finding they had lost their Harvest, they contrived to lay in for another, by sowing again those Principles of false Worship, Sedition and Rebellion against Government, which had been by the indeavours of this Princess for some time happily rooted out from amongst us. To the undertaking of this great work, Alanus, out of a Company of stragling Albonian Fugitives, had in a short time selected such a parcel of Scoundrels fit for his purpose, as were amassed into a great and bulky body; these he convened into the Order of a distinct Fraternity, which, for their better Convenience and Discipline, he incorporated within the Walls of a Foundation, purposely raised at his own charge for them at Doway in Flanders; where under the tutorage of Presidents and Provincials set over them, they were studiously instructed in all the arts of carnal Policy for the propagating of a false Religion, and stirring up of an unnatural Rebel-

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lion against their native Prince and Country. This Colledge of **Priests** (or rather Kennel of the **Devil's Beagles**) he instituted by the name which yet they retain of **Seminaries** or Sowers: **Sowers** of Strife and Mischief, **Sowers** of Schism and Faction, **Sowers** of Treason and Rebellion; these were the happy parts, these well **qualified Gentlemen** were to act, and to these purposes after they had been nursed up to some maturity there; they were sent over in great numbers (as they will be now) into **Albonia**, to practise their sowing Trade under several disguisements to avoid **Suspition** of their designs. But this new cultivated Country though it was their natural Soil, yet proved too unnatural to receive any of their pestilent Seed within it, but cast it out with abhorrency; and wherever it did take root, yet all the Crop they gathered from it, was but an unkind and pernicious sort of **Hemp-seed**, which afterward proved so fatal in the winding up of the matter, as to be the Instrument of their Destruction; So true holds that old adage.

——————— *Nec Lex est justior ulla*
Quam necis artifices arte perire sua.

Those

Those that Destruction sow and Death,
'Tis fit themselves should lose their breath.

In short, they justly received the reward of their Treasons at the Tyburnian Trident; and we through Gods Mercy kept our Peace and Religion secure out of their grasping clutches. Yet still they continued their Consults at their new founded Colledge at Doway, where no sooner one Treason was knockt down, but presently like Hydra's heads they hatch and start up a new one; till all at length became but Victims to the prudence, Courage, and Piety of our blessed Reformer: But Wars afterwards breaking out betwixt her and the Catholique Monarch, he would no longer suffer these Albonians (tho Petropolitans) being her Subjects to roost themselves within his Territories, but broke them up to go whither their own Wills or the Devil would carry them; thus being dislodged from their old dear Habitation to follow their fate in a Pilgrim Condition, the then great Bishop hearing of their Misfortune, and esteeming them for the merit of their Undertaking, did, out of his compassionate tenderness to such pious Creatures, as well as good Will to their Designs, allot them two other

new

new places for their reception, the one at Hemes, and the other at Petropolis it self, where they became again Collegiate, and resumed their former Order and Discipline that they observed at Doway. Besides this great favour, his Vicarship, for their better Encouragement, endowed them in these places with large Stipends and Revenues: And well he might; for you know the Labourer is worthy of his Hire; while they bring grist to his Mill, he may well suffer them to take toll, and while they sow his corn, to let them eat of his bread, since they have been so well setled, and such ample provisions made for their Encouragement; their Order has increased wonderfully to a great unweildy Bulk and Proportion; they are become as numerous as the Frogs in Egypt, and like those noisome cattle, we may find them croaking (so impudent are they grown) even in the most sacred retirements of Princes Courts; their very Closets and Bed-Chambers, where they spare not to spit their Venom, if possible, to infect the very Government it self; of the same leaven are the Herd now before us, which you see of themselves are of a pretty considerable number, besides those that are al-

ready sent over into Albania upon the same service. They are most of them Albanians, but Renegado's, and I hope when we come to meet them shortly in Albania, we shall see them punished accordingly.

Here Philerop broke off his Discourse, (which was very pleasant to me) for now the Secretary, who all this while had been reading the Commission, had concluded, and then proceeded, as we perceived, to fill their Seed baskets with heaps of odd kind of trumpery, such as Crucifixes, *Agnus Dei's*, Crosses, Rosaries, little pots of Water, Scrolls, Pamphlets, and a world of such kind of Frippery.

This was their Seed it seems, but 'twas not
(Wheat,
To say the truth, 'twas nothing but
(Cheat.

Well, thus the Asses being sadled for their journey, the next thing in order, was to discipline them, according to the paper of Instructions, which was then formally read to them after this manner, (their consents being first asked whether they were all willing to undertake the design, which they all jointly consented to by the holding up of their hands) They

were

were all of them forthwith to imbarque themselves for Albonia, where upon their landing, they were to disperse themselves, in such disguised habits as were most proper for their concealment, into the most populous and noted places of the Kingdom; where, while they continued, they were by a free and generous Converse, to insinuate themselves into the familiarities of all sorts of persons (especially the illiterate) where they had hopes of proselyting any to the Petropolitan faith, and to use their utmost Endeavours to bring them over to the Mother-Church; and that they might not be frighted by the Albonian Laws against such practices, his Vicarship had granted them full and ample Dispensations (under the Seal of the Fisher) for their concealment (if any danger should happen) that they might pretend, equivocate, falsifie or use any artifices whatsoever, that might be conducible to their Preservation.

They were under pretences of Religion, to assume the habits of the Religious amongst the Albonians, and under that pretext, having procured some estimation amongst the Clergy, to get into

their Pulpits, and there to vent, under some smooth and glossy way of expression, their **Petropolitan Principles**, and to exasperate the **Conforming** party against the **Dissenters**.

On the other side they were to ingratiate themselves with the **Dissenters** and under pretences of the more strictness in their profession, to get in (with such of them, especially as would admit of a **Lay Communion** betwixt Pastor and People, and permit **unordained** persons to preside in their Congregations) to teach in their Assemblies, and to instruct them in such things, as upon the opposite point would exasperate them against the **Conformists**.

Thus by the usual art of **Petropolitan ambodextership**, they were to set one party against the other, and so using them as Sampson's Foxes, by linking them with opposite faces, and firebrands between them of their own kindling, to cause a flame of Faction and Difference, that should terminate in destruction and ruine to them both.

They were to ingratiate themselves with such of the less knowing **Nobility**, as might by their subtle persuasions be the more

more easily bigotted to the Petropolitan faith, and having proselyted them to that faith, they were so far to indear themselves to them by their obliging Converses, as to become Masters of their purses, and to extract from them such supplies as might be conducible to the carrying on of the present design.

They were by their most strenuous indeavours to obstruct the convention of the Grand Senate, (the greatest Oppugners of the Petropolitan Interest) and either to corrupt them by gaining upon the Vulgar, to prefer such Persons in their popular Elections, as should be for the Petropolitan Interest, or by some means to cast bones of Dissention amongst them, to raise a quarrel between themselves, and so to occasion their breaking up.

They were to amuse the people by scattering such papers and Pamphlets amongst them, as should tend either to incense them against the Government, or to create divisions between themselves.

These, as near as I can remember, were the principal heads of their Instructions, a Copy of which was afterwards delivered to them, together with some Pardons and indulgences necessary to such sinners

as they were like to prove, if they followed their Directions; All which being dispatched, they were dismissed with his Viccarship's solemn Benediction, and so having made their low obeysance to the Great Bishop, they went back again in Order to their place.

CHAP. IV.

The next Order *that comes up, is that of the* Ignatians; *a Description of them; their Original, and practices; Instruments of Slaughter delivered to them by the* Gr. Viccar; *their Instructions. Then come up the Provincials of several Countries, that were to superintend the other inferiour Ministers. Their Names and particular Instructions about the management of the Plot. Next come up the Benedictines who were to settle themselves in a Colledge in* Albonia. *Then the* Petropolitan *Physitian that was to poison the King, some pleasant passages concerning him. A Glass of poison, and purse of Gold delivered to him by the* Gr. Bp. *The* Petropolitan

tropolitan *Advocate succeeds him; his Description and Instructions. The* Petropolitan *Mesqueraders described; their ridiculous Habit, some particular persons of that faction merrily hinted at.*

NExt unto those came up a Crue of Fellows, such as in my Life I never saw the like before, so uncouth and ugly both in their looks and Deportment; They were called on by the name of Ignatians; their habit as black as Hell, formed after the manner of a religious Order, only their Gate was novel and strange every one of them as they marched along limping and halting with one Leg. I did not for all their religious outsides, take them for such sanctified Persons, that they got their lameness (as Jacob did his) by wrestling with Angels, but that they rather got it by some excessive Exercises in Franconia, however, be the cause what it would, I wondred that the Grand Viccar should make use of such lame tools in his Service; But my Oracle Philcroy presently resolved me, who told me they had their Name and Institution from one Ignatius a famous Saint amongst the Petropolitans, sometimes an Hyspanian Souldier of the

lowest rank, and for his Debaucheries afterwards cashierd, and then turn'd Religious who having obtained Orders for himself, did afterwards institute that Order which is now so called after his name, and that he being himself a Cripple, his Disciples do thus imitate him in their counterfeit lameness.

This Order, said Philerop, since their first Institution are become so numerous, that they have their Societies in most parts of the Petropolitan World, and are become so famous for their Exploits in the Great Bishops service, that he seems to repose more confidence in them, than in any other Order of the Hierarchy. They are indeed his Janizaries, persons so bold and daring, that they will venture upon the greatest dangers and difficulties to do him service, tho it be to kill a Monarch, to burn Cities, massacre a Country, or to perpetrate any other villany, and afterwards be hang'd, or otherwise tortured to death for their pains.

These Vermin are not more savage in their practices, than subtle in their Designs, and therefore they take none into their Societies, but persons of most quick and acute parts, whom they afterwards

educate

educate in the most sublime arts of State and Policy according to the Machiavillian documents; and having so prepared them, they are sent abroad into the Courts and Countries of Christian Princes to execute such designs (tho never so villanous) as the Grand Vicar shall impose upon them. I desired to hear no more of them, but to observe the Passages of their proceedings; but then a new fit of Wonder seized me, when upon their coming up, the first present that was made to them (after their Commission) was a parcel of tragical Instruments of death and destruction, as Knives, Daggers, Pistols, Match, Fire-balls, and such like, all which were by his Vicarship first solemnly consecrated, by taking them in his hands, and bestowing upon them his Apostolical Benediction, and then delivered by the Secretary into the hands of the Ignatians, who received them with the Ceremony of Kissing, and then disposed them at their Girdles, or in their Pockets, as they thought fit.

After which their Instructions were likewise read to them as the former, the substance of which was,

That they were according to the solemn

Vow of their Profession, and their Duty to his Vicarship, and the Mother-Church, to endeavour the Extirpation of Heresie and Hereticks out of all places in the Europian World, especially Albonia (the principal Place designed in this grand Consult) And to this end they were speedily to imbarque themselves thither; and having there fixed the places of their Consults and Meetings together, were to disperse themselves into the Countreys, and to endeavour by the Arts and Methods of their Policy, either to proselyte the People to the Petropolitan faith, or to make them lose their own by raising and occasioning such Schisms and factions amongst them, as should terminate in destruction and confusion.

But in order to the more grand design of Subverting the Government (as the Gap by which the Petropolitans were most probably to enter) they were with those consecrated Instruments of Death and Destruction delivered to them, by themselves (or their agents) to destroy the sacred person of the Albonian Monarch, and all others commissionated by him, that were known Enemies to the Petropolitan State. And if Heaven should cross

croſs them in theſe Enterpriſes; *Flectere ſi nequeant ſuperos* (yet) *Acheronta movere*; (that is) [Devil do thy worſt] if the King, in ſpight of the Devil and his Agents, ſhould continue to live and reign, yet let his Subjects ſuffer; They were to fire their dwellings (and themſelves run away by the light of them) and if any other fair opportunity of Miſchief happened in the way, to raiſe a Mutiny, to pillage their goods, or to cut the throat of any well-willer to the Albanian Weal, they were not to ſtick at the doing of it.

And if any Chriſtian Magiſtrate ſhould be over-active in his Office, either in proſecuting the Laws againſt them, or enquiring into the Myſtery of their Deſigns; He was preſently to be taken off; Their Eye muſt not ſpare him; but they or ſome agents imployed by them, muſt by ſome means or other get him diſcharged both of his Life and Office at once. And if in attempting any of the aforeſaid Villanies, their Deſigns ſhould happen to be diſcovered before their Execution, and they thereupon called to queſtion about them, they had Diſpenſations granted them by his grand Diccarſhip, to conceal them by any Lyes, Denials, or equivocations, that

their

their Wits ſhould help them to make uſe of.

Nay, if they ſhould be proſecuted ſo far, as to bonds and Impriſonments, and afterwards be brought to their Trial, and receive judgment of Death, and brought to Execution, yet ſhould not their very Lives be dear to them in ſuch a caſe, and for ſo glorious a cauſe; but they ſhould rather part with them in an obſtinate affirming of their pretended innocency (let there be never ſo many or ſufficient proofs to the contrary) than to ſave them by a ſneaking timorous Confeſſion of the truth to the diſcouragement of the other Undertakers, and marring their deſigns.

And if thus like true and couragious Champions of the Petropolitan Church, they perſiſted to the death in the Vindication of their cauſe. The great Biſhop had granted them the glorious Titles and Rewards of Martyrdom, they ſhould be Canonized and Kalendered amongſt the Red-lettered Worthies; they ſhould be immediately freed from the pains of Purgatory, and be taken into Paradiſe, and their Blood and Bones, and the very Rags of their Veſtments be conſecrated

ſecrated and laid up in the Petropolitan Conſervatories as eternal trophies of their Faith and Martyrdom.

Thus they're encourag'd to deſtroy their lives
Themſelves; needs they muſt go, the Devil (drives.
Thus we may ſee what Martyrs Rome *has (own'd,*
The vileſt Traitors thus as Martyrs crown'd:
Let Rome *reward their ſufferings as they (pleaſe,*
Halters and hatchets ſtill are here their Fees.

Armed with theſe Inſtructions (pure Goſpel documents were they not) theſe Sons of Violence and Confuſion, after having received their conſecrated Tools Diſpenſation and other Trinkets, at the hands of the aforeſaid Secretary, went limping back to their place, as did the former, not without his Vicarſhip's Apoſtolical Benediction ſolemnly beſtowed upon them; and they had mine too in to the bargain, though after the manner that witches ſay their prayers, and the Jews read the Talmud. I heartily wiſht that God would blaſt and confound them in all their curſed Deſigns and Practices, and did not queſtion, but ſuch wiſhes might be as prevalent as his Unholineſs's

linels's Bleſſing. I expected to ſee no more of them, till I ſhould meet them at the Gallows, and then I ſhould ſee how well they obſerved their Inſtructions.

Next to theſe came up an Order of Church-men in more coſtly habits than any of the former, and ſeemed by their Garb and going to be none of the ſmall Prophets, but ſome ſpecial Dignitaries amongſt them. Theſe, Philerop told me, were Provincials inveſted with preſidencies over the ſeveral inferiour Orders, and were according to their Inſtructions to hold their reſidencies in ſeveral of the Petropolitan Countries as namely the Catholick Provinces, Francomia, Caſtilia, &c. Where they had their ſeveral Titles and Juriſdictions; and theſe were to hold Correſpondence, and to give directions to thoſe Provincials in Albonia, and other places that were inferiour and ſubject to them, as namely, Father Paulus d'Oliva Provincial general, preſiding the Ignatian Order, was to direct the Conſults and Managements of that Order reſiding at Londinopolis, and had a particular Commiſſion delivered to him to that purpoſe.

Then came up Mounſiear Jeronimo Pro-

Provincial of the Ignatians in *novo Castilio* whose instructions were according to the form of his Commission, to furnish such of that Order, that were engaged in the present Design, with Counsel and Mony, and to misrepresent the actions and intentions of the Albonian Monarch in the Catholick Court, so as to create Jealousies and Feuds between the Two Crowns; as knowing that as the Interest of their Kingdoms did oblige them to a mutual amitie; so such an amitie would be inconsistent with the interest of their present Designs, and very much hinder their proceedings, unless it were some way broken, or disturbed by them.

Enter next Father le Chese, an Ignatian, who though no Provincial, yet being a person of great Eminence and Authority, as being Confessor to the Frantonian Monarch, was thought fit to have his place amongst the aforesaid Dignitaries. He was it seems a notable *Sacropolitico* of that Order in whose Policies the grand Bishop reposed much Confidence as to this Affair; and besides was a great Friend of the Secretaries, with whom, when in Albonia, he was to hold a constant, but very private Correspondence

by

by Ciphers and Figures, whereby the said Secretary was to inform the said Father le Chese, and he to inform his great Master, the Franconian Prince with all the most considerable matters of State, according to which they should take their measures, and for his Encouragement in such services, the most Petropolitan Monarch would allow him a considerable pension, (as the Reward of his Treasons.) I perceived the Secretary in speaking to him, did observe more than Ordinary Reverence towards him, but had he then known what afterwards I knew happened, that his negotiations with him should be rewarded with an Halter, I suppose he would not at this time have been so officious in his Observances to him.

This Service indeed was dangerous and difficult to manage in the Court of a Christian Prince, and such an one whose own known sagasity, besides the assistance of an able and discrete Council, might very probably, in good time, discover, and so prevent such treasonable Correspondencies: but the Petropolitan Politicians are men too bold and daring to start at dangers, tho they lie in immediate prospect, their usual Motto being Neck or nothing, when

when (like fooliſh hardy people, ruſhing themſelves from precipices) they venture upon ſuch deſperate attempts in the ſervice of their ambitious imployers.

The laſt of this company, that preſented himſelf to the Board, was another Provincial; that by his looks and geſture ſeemed to be an Albonian, and ſo indeed he was (as Philerop informed me) an own dear Traitor-Countryman of ours, that out of his deviliſh Zeal to the Petropolitan Cauſe, was going (with the reſt of his parricidian crue) to deſtroy his own natural Prince and Country. I asked Philerop the name of this Monſter, he told me his ſurname was Strange, but by what name of Baptiſm he was called, whether Roger, or Thomas, or John, he knew not, but that he was commiſſionated to be Provincial over the Ignatians in Albonia, whoſe Inſtructions were no other than that he ſhould govern and direct them in the management of this Deſign, according to their general Inſtructions, and as he ſhould be Ordered from time to time by the Father general at Petropolis. Theſe were all the Perſons (ſo near as I can remember) of this Gang, who having ſeverally diſcharged

their

their Duty at the Board, went off as the former.

I thought there would be no end of this tragical Proceſſion, the ſcenes multiplying ſo faſt one after another, and to ſay truth I began to be almoſt tired with beholding them: But Philetus told me there was one Order more to come up in the rear of theſe, who were an Albonian Fraternity, called Benedictines, to whom his Dictatſhip (of his ſpecial Bounty) had by his Pattent granted an ancient and goodly Structure (ſometime the reſidence of the Albonian Princes) ſcituate in Londinopolis, called Savoy, which they were to uſe and enjoy as a Colledge for their Fraternity therein to repoſe their Library and ſacred Utenſils, and to manage there their Conſults with the reſt of their Brethren, as they ſhould ſee occaſion; there was a pretty number of them I ſaw draw up to the Board, moſt of which by their Countenances ſeemed to be Albonians, but what they did there, or what was ſaid, I minded not; for the truth is, at the underſtanding of this, I fell into a deep fit of muſing, thinking with my ſelf of the preſumptuous arrogance of the Petropolitan Biſhop, who would not be content

tent only to let his destructive Beagles to skulk up and down in shelters, in a Country where their Company was so much abhorred and hated; but should assign them so publick a place in the midst of a populous City, and near to the Princes Court (as it was) to kennel in. I confess my admiration at this and some other passages that I had observed, put me into a very profound fit of musing and thoughtfulness, so that I never observed this new Company, either what they did at the Consult, or when they departed; But my Friend Philetop seeing me stand in such a studious posture, with my Eyes fixed upon the ground, and Head leaning upon my Hand, began to rouse me up by plucking me by the Elbow, and saying, What, are you asleep? Awake man, Here is another rare Show a coming; No, no, said I, Philetop I am not asleep; though I lyed in that, for I was asleep all this while; but however at this time, I fancied my self awake, only got into a brown Study, out of which being thus roused by Philetop, I opened mine Eyes again to see what Pageant was next, and presently I discovered a single person by himself, and without any other Company,

marching

marching up in great haſte (as if he had forgot himſelf) towards the Table; he ſhewed himſelf by his habit to be an Albonian, and was a ſpare thin-faced old man, pretty tall, having over his other cloaths a long ſcarlet Gown and Hood, ſuch as in Albonia are uſed by thoſe of the Degree of Doctors; to ſatisfie my curioſity, Phileron told me that he knew him very well, and that he was an Albonian Phyſician: (A Phyſician (ſaid he) what need is there of ſuch here, their province being to ſave mens lives; but thoſe are all for deſtroying them. 'Tis true indeed replied he, it is a Phyſician's work to preſerve Life, if they can, though through their ignorance too often they deſtroy many; but what ſuch do ignorantly, this great man (for he is a perſon of quality) ſhall do wilfully, and kill as many at once (if he ſucceed in his Deſign) as Nero would have done, when he wiſhed that all the Citizens of Rome had but one Neck, that he might ſtrike it off at a blow. The Albonian Nation have but one ſupream Head upon whoſe preſervation, the Lives and Properties of the whole Kingdom does depend? Him this Devils Drugſter is to take off by poiſon, and to facilitate

facilitate his way to it, he hath already got a place in the Albonian Court, whereby he may have the freer access to the King when he has occasion, and is lately come over to the Consult to receive his Orders; the Great Bishop has had several discourses with him in private, since his being here, and I suppose has firmly ingaged him to the business, and that he now attends the Board for Instructions. And accordingly I saw the Secretary deliver him some Instruments into his hand, and wished him to be very careful in his management. The Great Bishop himself then beckened up to him, and whispered something in his Ear (what it was I know not) and then took up a small glass of liquor, which Philerop said he believed was the poison, and having mumbled a few words over it, which was the Blessing or Consecration of the Vicar to make it effectual; he then delivered it to the Doctor, wishing its operation to be successful, and him to be faithful and courageous in the applying of it; after which he took up a good bulky purse (of Gold as 'tis supposed) and having likewise bestowed his Benediction upon it (such blessings I confess I thought I could be con-

tent

tent to receive from his Victorship my self) he likewise gave the Physitian that; upon this purse was plainly inscribed this Motto in Capitals,

——————— *Auri sacra Fames*
——— *Quæ non mortalia pectora cogis?* Virg.

which Philerop was pleased to english thus,

——————— *The sacred hunger of Gold*
Will Judges make corrupt, and Cowards bold.

Thus furnished with his poisonous drug, and healing bag, this new Doctor Lopez made his Obeysance to the Court and vanisht; In whose room starts up presently another Gown-man (an Albonian) but of a different Robe, having on him such an one as is usually worn by the Advocates and Pleaders in Albonia; he seemed to be about 50 years of age, a spare man, but of a comely aspect, and very grave in his deportment; the Court seemed to give him much respect, he being as Philerop informed me, the chief Counsellor and Advocate to all the Metropolitan party in Albonia, and his services in that particular was looked upon to be of no small consideration to their Designs and Interest, being to draw up the Conveyances of such Estates as they should purchase in

Albonia

Albonia, or such Stocks as they should raise for the carrying on their Designs, to settle them securely, as also to draw up such Commissions and Pattents, as should be necessary to their purpose; His charge which he received from the grand Vicar himself was no more in short than that he should be careful and faithful in his trust, in the management of which, they knew his own skill and learning in the Laws would be most proper to direct him without receiving from them any particular Instructions.

Thus Physick, Law, *and feign'd* Divinity
In heats against their Native Country *burn,*
Let them go on, but may that Misery
Design'd to us, upon themselves return.

The Lawyer, after a short stay, did likewise make his *Exit*: And who the Devil should come up next but a sort of Masquerade rs or Protesto-petropolitans, for so Philerop called them; their habit indeed was perfect Masquerade; for their inside Garments was after the Petropolitan guise, a monkish kind of Gear with Rosaries and Crosses dangling at their Girdles, But over these they wore an upper Garment of the Albonian fashion, some in Cloaks, and some in Coats,

and

and some in Gowns, such as our Clergy in Albonia do usually wear; upon their first appearing I saw the Secretary deliver out to them Instruments under the Seal of the Fisher, containing Indulgences and Dispensations; I minded not much what was said to them, being willing rather to be informed by Phileroy, who told me that those Indulgencies given them were for Lying & Dissembling, the main necessary part of their Undertaking. These, said he, are looked upon as no part of their standing Militia, but a kind of Auxiliaries or Volunteers, that being bred up in the Christian Faith, are yet in their Hearts and Judgments Petropolitans, which they keep close to themselves, and only wear the profession of their Country Religion, for a Disguise and Concealment.

——*Sic, sic juvat ire per umbras.*

In masquerading *Shades these* Sons of Night
And Darkness, *love to* hide *them from our sight,*
Ravenous Wolves in Sheeps cloathing, a pack of knaves, whose Religion is made up of Hypocrisie and Apostacy, Faction and Treachery; their *piæ fraudes* are by those Indulgences and Dispensations

ſations warranted, ſo that by vertue of theſe, they may aſſume the pretences of the higheſt Zeal for the Worſhip of the Albonian Church, to joyn in Communion with them, and partake with them in the moſt ſolemn Myſteries of their Religion; yea, they had a Liberty given them (upon occaſion, and to avoid ſuſpition) to write and rail againſt the Petropolitans, and the grand Vicar himſelf; and yet they were at the ſame time covertly to act for them, and by their ſly and ſubtle inſinuations to amuſe, the thoughtleſs people into a Diſbelief of any Plot or Deſigns acting againſt them.

Amongſt this herd I obſerved one, that methoughts lookt very Strange-ly, he was an elderly perſon, with a Pen in his Ear and a Broom under his Arm. I was very deſirous to know of Philerop, who this perſon ſhould be, and the meaning of his humour; but he (ſmiling) told me he would forbear informing me at preſent, but that I ſhould know more of him hereafter. But as for the Broom he told me, it was a neceſſary Utenſil uſed by him and others of his party, for the ſweeping away of the durt and filth from the Petro-

politans Doors, and laying it at the Doors of the Christians:
A *pretty* Artifice *indeed of* Rome,
To skim their Pot *and throw on us the* Skum.

Well, at the tail of these rutted another sort of Animals different in their habits, but so close joyned to them, that they seemed to be all of one herd; their Garb and Gesture was as strange and uncouth as any I had yet observed amongst them; I believe Africk or Nile never produced such variety of Monsters, as were spawned at this Assembly: Their under Garments were (contrary to the others) exactly of the Albonian cut and fashion, over which they wore a full Garment patched up of Wolves and Foxes skins promiscuously interwoven, which hung so loose about them, that they could readily throw them off, or put them on at their pleasure; as I perceived (upon what account I know not, except it were to represent the humour of their Design) they sometimes did waggishly, snatching off their Cloaks and throwing them upon others backs, whom they then laughed at, while they themselves skipped up and down the room in querpo.--- These Ridiculo's, Phileroy informed me,

were

were properly called **Sham-Plotters**, a name that very properly agreed with their Office and Designs: For, said he, their **business** is, having contrived some **treacherous Design**, if they should happen to be discovered, or but suspected of it, presently to **sham** it off themselves, and throw it as they do their **Cloaks** upon others, (namely) the **Christians**, especially the **Dissenters**, and such of them as are men of Power and Estates, whose names they shall get into Lists and present to the **Government**, as persons designed to subvert the same by an open **Rebellion**.

And thus these coupled Mates *in* Masque-
(rade
By different *ways drive on their* hellish
(trade;
The one for his Knavery *gets a* Cloak; *the*
(*other*
His knavish One *casts on his* honest Bro-
(ther.

I had enough of this **Pageant**, and therefore what they did at the board, or what was said to them, I minded not, I perceived they staid not long there before they retired; and so this **Scene** being likewise withdrawn, I perceived the **Court**

began to be in a great buſſle, as if they were breaking up, a time that I heartily longed for, being quite tired with their ſopperies; but the Coaſt being ſomewhat clear, I perceived a company of fellows (all Albonians) buſſling up in great haſte towards the Table, who by their Inſtruments and badges of their Trade that they carried with them, appeared to be Printers.

Sulphur *and* Print, *both* Jeſuits *Inventions To* blaſt *the World with* Ruine *and* Contentions.

One of them amongſt the reſt carried before him a Tablet, wherein was figured the Great Biſhop's Keys (as I ſuppoſed them) being two gilded Keys acroſt, which perhaps might be a badge of His Vicarſhip's favour: I ſaw they addreſt themſelves to the Secretary, and their Errand was to deſire a Faculty or Licence from the Great Biſhop to ſerve him in their Myſtery by printing ſuch Pamphlets as ſhould be contrived by the Maſqueraders or other their friends for the furtherance of the preſent Deſign. This requeſt of theirs was no ſooner askt but granted. The Secretary preſently drawing up a Licence or Inſtrument, which the

Grand

Grand Vicar signed and delivered to them, bidding them not spare for Ink or Paper in his Service, they should be well enough rewarded for their pains; ay, said I to my self, if you do not, I hope the Devil himself will pay them their Wages; for I know not any sort of men upon Earth, that do him better service than those sort of fellows do: Well, having got what they came for, after some formal Observance made to the Court, they turned back again, very well pleased, as I perceived; for they began to be frolick with one another: One of them smearing some of his Printing Ink upon his finger, smutted his next companion upon the face with it, saying, O Sir, you are a Phanatick, I'le mark you. No, says the other, you are mis-Tooke, I am an abhorrer of them, and all their actions. By this (said Philerop, who observed the passage as well as I) you may see the humors of these fellows, who (to please a party that they are sure to be no losers by) will not spare to blacken or bespatter any one that comes in their way, by fastening on them all the vilifying terms they can think of, to make them odious to the Vulgar; well, let them go,

they will be made look as **black** as their own **Ink**, by that time they are known to the **World** a little better.

This was but a kind of an Interruption, the **Court**, as I said beginning to busſle towards a breaking up, in order to which the **Grand Vicar** again riſing up from his **Chair**, told the Board and the Company, that they had now no more to do, but to take their leaves one of another, and from that place to diſperſe themſelves unto the ſeveral places and **Countries** where their buſineſs was ordered for the carrying on of this preſent **Deſign**; there they were to **Govern** themſelves according to the Inſtruction now given them, which as they were the reſults of the grave and mature Debates of this **great Conſult**, were to be regarded accordingly with all **Care** and ſtrictneſs; and for the better ordering their buſineſs, they were from time to time upon all Emergencies to have recourſe to their **Provincials** and **Superiors**, who were in all caſes of difficulty to direct them in their proceedings, and by whom he expected himſelf to receive frequent accounts of them: He thanked and commended them for their **Zeal** and **Readineſs** to his and the **Churches** Ser-

vice,

vice, assuring them, that as soon as Albonia was theirs, which he questioned not but by their faithful Endeavours would soon be, he would distribute it amongst them, the ancient Rents and Revenues of the Church should be theirs, and in the mean while they should not want Encouragement; for that Order was taken for the raising of several Stocks to be deposited in the hands of their Provincials for their present Supplies; and so wishing them all good Success in their proceedings, and with his hands stretched abroad, bestowing upon them once more his solemn Apostolical Benediction, he bid them all heartily Farewel: at which the Company universally gave a great Shout, crying, long live the great Bishop. And the Scarlet Senate themselves seemed to joyn with them, who yet (for all their anniversary Ceremony of (*ad multos annos*) may be thought to pay those respects but formally, their ambitious hopes of succeeding him rendring them not over fond of his continuance.

After this Dismission we saw the several Companies withdraw themselves successively to their several apartments, which they went into by several Doors

leading through subterranean passages (the Devil knows whither) leaving the Vicar and his Commissioners still sitting at the Board, till such time as the Secretary had packt up his Tools and Papers; but before he had quite done, something came into the great Vicar's head, which he called to him about, and that was, that when he came into Albonia, he would have him strictly to search into all such Statutes as have been publisht in the Reigns of the several Albonian Princes, since the time of their Apostacy from the Mother-Church, against the Petropolitans, especially those in the Reign of Queen Eliza, and such as related only to their recusancy or refusing to joyn in Communion with them in their publick Worship. He was to observe whether the dissenters amongst themselves upon the account of the like recusancy, were not intended to be comprehended and liable to the same penalties; which however he was to indeavour to get some Persons eminent in the Law, to make such Constructions of them, that so the force of them might be wrested against the dissenting Christians, and the Petropolitans escape.

This

This was a ſudden fit of Policy that came into the Old Vicars mind, which the Secretary with an humble cringe promiſed faithfully to obſerve, withal telling him, that the work would be more facile, to bend the force of thoſe Statutes againſt the Diſſenters, for that they had Enemies enough amongſt them of their own Religion, who would ſooner proſecute a Diſſenter upon thoſe Statutes than a Petropolitan, as has been found the Experience of ſome years paſt. This Anſwer much ſatisfied the Great Biſhop, who preſently thereupon removing from his Chair, with his aforeſaid Harbinger before him, returned back to his apartments, the Scarlet Senate and the reſt of the Conſult, together with the Secretary following him, much after the ſame Order that they came hither. And now the Actors being withdrawn, there remained a clear Stage, and our Obſervations were ended: Wherefore Philetor taking me from the window, we ſat down to chat a while about theſe matters; but being both tired with ſtanding ſo long a gazing upon theſe Pageants; he firſt went and fetched out of a little hole in the room, a bottle of rich Canary Wines,

and ſome Tobacco, and then ſtruck a light, (for the lights that glimmered upon us out of the great Room were now all taken away) and having drunk down one glaſs, I found my Spirits much revived, which were before very lumpiſh and heavy, but the refreſhment of the Wine and the company of my dear friend did much allay the melancholy, which otherwiſe the diſmalneſs of that place and company would have moved me to; but I knew I ſhould fare no worſe than he did: But then beginning our chat together, it came into my head, to ask him how he came to be excuſed from giving his attendance at the Conſult all this while, together with the reſt of the company; he told me for that he was excuſeable (though had it not been for my Company he would have been there) he being none of the Commiſſionated Orders or Parties amongſt them; but though, ſaid he, I am admitted into the Ignatian Order, yet they permit no Novices, as they yet account me for ſome time, to ingage on any conſiderable Enterpriſes amongſt them; and therefore my Province hitherto hath been no other than to carry Letters and Miſſions from one place to another, yet notwithſtanding the

the meanneſs of my preſent Employ, I will aſſure you, I have got into ſo much favour with them, as twice to be admitted into the Great Biſhop's own Cabinet, where His Vicarſhip has very freely diſcourſed me about matters in Albania, and ſeemed to have ſo much confidence in my Faithfulneſs, that he aſſured me he had ordered our Provincials to put me ſoon after our arrival there, into ſome higher place of Truſt, and that my ſervices ſhould be amply conſidered: I thanked His Unholineſs for his kindneſs (which truly in my heart I was little ambitious of) and promiſed to ſerve him to the utmoſt of my abilities, and ſo I will, ſaid Phileroy, if ever I get over into Albania, I will ſerve him according to his Deſerts, by diſcovering his Treaſons to him againſt whom they are intended; but when will that happy time be, ſaid I, that we ſhall be moving thither, Purgatory is no comfortable place to dwell in; tho my Entertainment here (by your means) I find to be much better than I expected; you ſhall fare no worſe than I do, ſaid Phileroy, while we ſtay, however I think our Stay will be no longer than to morrow, the buſineſs of the Conſult

ſuit being now all diſpatched: And I heard the Great Biſhop give order for his Gallcys (and the reſt of the veſſels that brought us) lying in Harbour at the foot of the Mountain, to be ready againſt that time; Moſt of the Company are bound for Albonia, but diſperſe themſelves in ſeveral Ships, and are to land themſelves in ſeveral ports of that Kingdom, to avoid ſuſpicion of their Numbers, if any of them ſhould happen to be diſcovered. But you and I (ſaid he to me) will go together in a ſmall Frigat with ſome others, old Companions of mine, and all Albonians; ſome of whom I know to be true Chriſtians, and only have mixt themſelves with this rabble upon the ſame accounts that I do, to have as Spies to betray them, and hereafter according to their Obſervations to make Diſcovery of the Petropolitans practices. We are all well known one to another, and when we can get aſide together in private, we uſe to manage our little Conſults together to Counterplot the greater; their company will be a good diverſion to us in our Voyage, when we can get privately into our Cabbin together; I would have you be acquainted with them,

Philopa-

Philopatris, they are honeſt Lads I aſſure you; With all my heart replied I, I love true hearts and honeſt men, but did not expect there would have been any in this place beſides my ſelf, but it ſeems I am miſtaken; certainly did His Vicarſhip know what a crue of prying Hereticks were here, he would ſtay ſome days longer to call an Inquiſition for us, and ſecure us for ever getting out of this place. You may be ſure on't, ſaid Philerop; but as I have had hitherto the good luck to conceal my ſelf from their ſuſpicion, ſo we muſt for the future carry our ſelves warily to avoid it, till ſuch time as we are arrived in Albonia.

Thus methoughts we paſt away our time talking and diſcourſing till it grew late, and our Eyes waxing heavy, we began to play a game at Noddy. But Philerop went and ſpread his pallat and quilt (the ſame that belonged to his Cabbin in the Ship) and ſo we lay down together and in a little time I fancied we fell aſleep; but what ſtrange whimſies are there in dreams; for alas I was aſleep all this while, yet my fancy in this Parenthetical ſlumber ran into new fancies, dreams within dreams, like the Petropolitans Plots,

one

one within another. Well, as I fancied I ſlept, ſo I fancied I waked again in the morning, and my mind being intent about our Removal, I jogged Philetop to ſtrike a light, that we might ſee to riſe, which he preſently did, and looking upon his Watch, found it was near Eight a Clock, whereupon we buſſled up as faſt as we could, and Philetop fell to packing up his things; for we perceived by the lights ſet up in the great Room, and the buſſling to and fro of the Company, that they were preparing to depart. After we had packt up the things, we withdrew to the little Window, where we ſaw a Company of Sailors (who were ſent for to that purpoſe) with burdens on their backs to carry them down to the Ships; amongſt the reſt that were unburthened Philetop ſaw five or ſix jolly Albonian Sailors, that belonged to the Veſſel that we were to go in, and calling out to one of them by his name, to take his parcel with him, which we together heaving down Stairs, the fellow took upon his back and went off with it, telling us we had now a merry gale of Wind for Albonia. I would have had Philetop that we ſhould go along with him; but he told me he muſt

ſtay

ſtay till the reſt of the Company, that were to go along with us were ready; ſeveral of the Companies that we obſerved yeſterday, we ſaw marching off one after another. I perceived they were moſt of them now (if not all) in Lay habits, their Monkiſh Veſts and trumpery being ſent before, truſſed up in their baggage; nay, Philerop himſelf had now left off his diſguiſe, and put himſelf into an Albonian habit. I told him, he now looked like Philerop himſelf, but he cautioned me not to call him by that name, which he durſt not own amongſt thoſe people, but Petrophil, which was the name he had aſſumed, and was known by amongſt the Petropolitans, to whom he knew the other name would be odious, and a dangerous Intimation to them of what he endeavoured to conceal; I promiſed to obſerve his Direction. After this the next Company that appeared, was the Grand Vicar himſelf (with ſome harbingers before him) and his Scarlet Senate following; but they were all now (even the Biſhop himſelf) in black Coats (I ſuppoſe their uſual travelling habits) girt cloſe to them. Philerop ſeeing the Great Biſhop marching along, ſuddenly drew up towards

towards him, and I followed him at a small distance; The Vicar I perceived presently took notice of him (Philerop making a very low Obeysance to him) and said, I see Petrophil you are prepared for your Voyage, Pray remember us to all our Friends in Albania, and to our Rebellious Son your King, when you see him, (I imagined what kind of Remembrance His Vicarship meant) Philerop acquainted His Unholiness he would do both; the latter I am sure he did soon after to some purpose, though quite contrary to the Great Bishop's meaning. This was all that passed betwixt them, the Vicar went on; and presently after came up the Company we waited for, that we were to go along with, with whom we joyned our selves, and marching the way we came in at, through the dark Entry, we ascended the brow of the Hill, and so down again to the Harbour, where our Vessel lay ready to take us in; we got to it by a Shallop sent out to fetch us, and being on Board, the Seamen presently hoised Sail, and having a fair Wind with us, set forward, and in a few daies came to Anchor at one of the five Ports in Albania.

During

During the time of our Voyage, Philetop brought me into ſome acquaintance with thoſe Chriſtian Albonians before mentioned, with whom, when we could get opportunity, we diſcourſed together about the preſent affairs, and how we ſhould do to circumvent the Deſigns laid againſt us; to which end we reſolved, when we were got into Albonia, to keep together, and to have frequent meetings in order to conſidering of the moſt effectual ways to do it.

At our firſt landing upon our Native Soil, we went altogether in a company to a Tavern, to congratulate each other upon our happy arrival, but chiefly to attend our Provincial who came along with us, and to receive his Commands, where we were to wait upon him at Londinopolis, (the chief place intended of our Rendevouz) in order to our Conſults; which he having informed us, and an health drunk round to the good ſucceſs of the Petropolitan Deſign, (which we, that were abhorrers to it, durſt not, for that time, but pledge) we parted Company, betaking our ſelves to our ſeveral Inns. Philetop, my ſelf, and our Chriſtian Country-men ſtill keeping Compa-

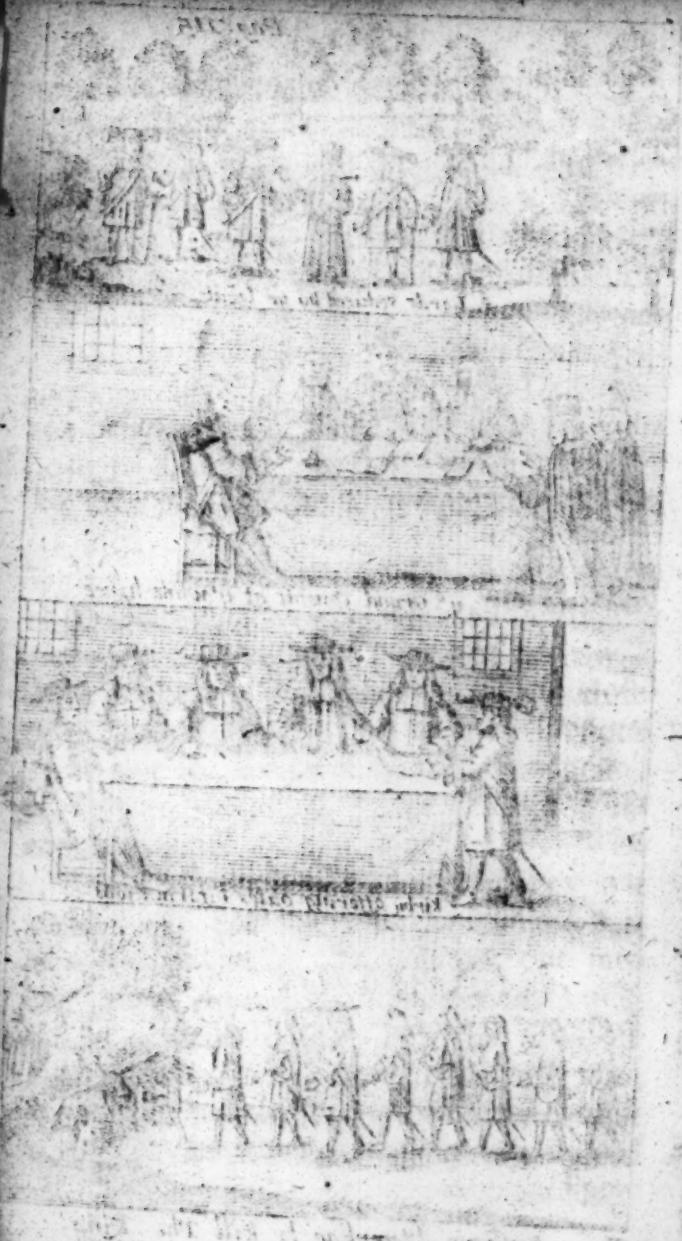
ny

ny together, (as we had before resolved) both that night and the next, (taking up places in the Stage Coaches belonging to the Town) we journeyed together to **Londinopolis**, where we all desired to be, for that all our particular Concerns lay in that place.

Our **Petropolitan** Friends we left behind, some of them resolving to stay some time in the place they were in, others intending to travel some time about the Countries, as our **Provincial** (called **Blanc-pain**) for one, yet all of them designing to be in the **City**, at the time prefixed for the **Grand Consult**, at which we (for I was now counted one of them) were to meet them.

Being arrived at the City (having first taken account of each others Lodgings, and agreed upon a certain place of our meeting together) we went every man to his own home, and spent some days in setling our concerns there.

But during that time, I stole so much leisure as to enquire a little at **Coffee-Houses** and other places of Intelligence, what news was stirring, and whether I could find any inkling of this present intended Plot, but could not hear any mention



Lords seduced by ye Jesuits

y^e Grand Consult at y^e White horse

Kirby Giving Oates Instructions

The 2 Ruffians Attempting to Kill The King

tion, or discover the least Suspicion of it; we were now at Peace with all the World, dreading no Enemies abroad, and as little suspecting any at home; all was in a quiet and tranquil posture, till the arrival of these Sons of mischief and Confusion with whom in a little time (tho they walked up and down *incognito*) the Town swarmed. During this while Philerop and I met often privately together; for I desired not now to associate any more with my new acquaintance of the Petropolitans, lest (if discovered) it might turn to my prejudice, and therefore avoided coming to their Consults, but received accounts from time to time by him of what was done in them; Philerop keeping in close with them till such time as their Designs were ripe for Execution, and then he intended as he told me, to make his Discovery.

One time my Visions carried me in a melancholy posture into the Solitudes of a shady Grove, curiously cut out into Walks and Ambulets, and near adjoyning to a magnificent Building, but what the place was, or who it belonged to, I knew not; here I discovered six persons very earnest in discourse together; One of them I

knew

knew by his habit to be an **Ignatian**; the reſt I ſuppoſed by the Sumptuouſneſs of their Garb, and Titles of Honour and Reſpect that the other gave them, were **Noblemen**; after they had diſcourſed a while, I ſaw the **Prieſt** take a Book from under his Arm, which, holding out to them, they ſeverally kiſſed, and ſomething they ſaid each of them, but what it was I could not well hear: I took this for the Ceremony of ſome **Oath** that the Ignatian impoſed upon them; for I heard him ſay to them very audibly, that it would be no leſs than Damnation to them, if they ſhould in the leaſt matter violate what they had promiſed, telling them what great Confidence the **Great Biſhop** had in their aſſiſtance, and that they could not ſacrifice their **Eſtates**, no nor their **Lives** upon a better account than the Service of the **Mother-Church**, nor do better Service to it, than by cutting off their Heretical **King**, from their Obedience to whom, they were by the **Grand Vicar's Bull** (lately come over) *ipſo facto* abſolved; and for their better Encouragement informs them how bountifully the **Great Biſhop** had conſidered them by conferring on them ſeveral places of the greateſt

Truſt

Truſt and Honour, as namely, one of them (naming him and all the reſt particularly) to be Lord Great Chancellor, a ſecond Grand Caſhier, the third to be General of the forces, a fourth to be Lieutenant, and a fifth to be Pay-maſter of the Army; for all which Places and Offices, he told them there were Commiſsions ready for them, remaining in the hands of their chief Advocate at Londinopolis, and ſo wiſhing them to be conſtant and reſolute in their proceedings, (in ſo glorious an Undertaking as he called it) and not to ſtick at venturing their Lives and Liberties in the promoting it, the Wizzard concluded by giving them his Benediction; In requital of which, I ſaw them return him theirs, every one beſtowing a handful of Gold upon him, which they told him, was but an Earneſt of their future Liberality, and promiſing joyntly to exhauſt their Revenues (if need ſhould be) to the laſt penny in this Service. I now (laying thoſe paſſages together) imagined to what they tended, which filled me with ſuch a rage againſt the Devil in a Cowle, the Ignatian, that I had certainly fell upon him and beat him; but that the impetus of my fancy at this very time hurrying me away

way from their compaany, broke off my revenge, and placed me again in my own house, where I became more troubled and discontented than I was before, still longing to meet with Philetus, that I might confer a little with him about these things.

And according to my Wish, the next day he sent to me to meet at a place near by, I presently went to him, and after usual civilities past beween us, I presently acquainted him with my Dream yesterday which he listned to with good attention; and then asked me if my Memory would serve to describe the several persons I saw there; I told him yes, and accordingly did as near as I could remember describe them to him; whereupon he told me that my Vision was a real thing, and that those five Persons were five Noblemen of great Estates in Albania, and the other an Ignatian, who together with some others had, in pursuance of their Instructions received at Strombolo, treated with, and disposed the aforesaid Lords, both by voluntary Contributions out of their Estates, and otherwise to give in their assistances from time to time to the carrying on of the present Design: As

they

they had acquainted the Provincial and other Members at their Grand Consult, which (Philerop told me) was by appointment held last night at the White Horse in le Strand, a Tavern there so called, which was the usual place of their Meetings.

———*The treacherous* Trojan Horse *of old*
Did not more Mischiefs *in his Bow'ls enfold,*
Than did this place.———

I was extreamly desirous to hear how things passed at this Consult, and in what posture their affairs stood. All which Philerop (who carryed a continual load within him, and had none to unbosom himself to but my self) did very freely and satisfactorily inform me after this manner; he told me at this Consult, there was a far greater appearance than there had been at any of the former, and that there were scarce any of any Order in Town, or any of their Agents and Instruments, who was not then present: The Provincial Blancpain sat there in chief, to whom the several persons ingaged in the Design, gave in particular accounts of their Actings and Proceedings: The first that did it was the man of Cole, as the Albontians call him, or the Great Dutchess's Secre-

Secretary, he acquainted the Board how ſucceſsfully he had engaged his Maſter the Great Duke to the Petropolitan Intereſt, and what an amity and Correſpondence he had maintained between his ſaid Maſter and Mr. le Cheſe Confeſſor to the great Franconian Monarch, and a powerful Miniſter in that Court; and had ſo far prevailed (by his Letters) with him in the behalf of the Petropolitans here, that the ſaid Le Cheſe had ſent over the Sum of 10000 *l.* which was now lying in the Banker's hand, ready for their uſe and Service: And for that his great Maſter's Title of Succeſſion to the Imperial Crown, (he being now ſuſpected for a Petropolitan) was like to be queſtioned by the Grand Senate, at their now near approaching Convention; he had farther by his ſtrong and plying mediation with the aforeſaid Miniſter, obtained from him a promiſe of a vaſt Sum of Money, out of Franconian King's Coffers, wherewith to allow Penſions and for other ſecret Services in Court, for to hinder the Senates ſitting, or to cauſe their ſudden breaking up when ever they ſhould enter upon the point of the Succeſsion: That withal if his great Maſters Intereſt could not be ſe-

cured

cured this way, yet to haſten it another, he had not, nor ſhould be wanting to conſider of ſome way to take the King off, (the word they commonly uſe for the intended Murther of him) and ſhould not ſtick to do it himſelf, if he could meet with a fair opportunity to do it: Beſides this Narrative he pulled a packet, containing Copies of the Letters that he ſent to Le Cheſe, and thoſe Letters that Le Cheſe had returned back again to him; all which he laid before the Provincial, who looked them over, and did as well highly applaud his Services as congratulate his ſucceſs in them; telling him, that the Great Biſhop had been already acquainted with his Endeavours, and in recompence thereof had (beſides other favours intended) by his Apoſtolical Pattent conſtituting him chief Secretary to the Apoſtolical State, which he would in a few days deliver to him, and in the mean while, ſetting aſide the leſſer Title of her Highneſs's, he was to be known by no other ſtile than that of His Unholineſs's Secretary.

The joy that the Secretary fell into at the hearing this bleſſed News (as he called it) ſeemed leſs than aſtoniſhment, ſtanding for ſome time in a fixed poſture, with

elevated Eyes, and hands folded together like one of Medusa's Statutes, but at last recovering himself, with a profound Reverence he bowed himself with his arms cross, his breast towards the Provincial, desiring him to return his humble thanks to the Grand Viccar, with an assurance that (tho he did not deserve, yet) he should by all means endeavour to answer so great a Trust with the utmost hazard of his Life and Fortunes: This unhappy word was spoken truer than perhaps he was then aware of, as the Event shortly shewed.

——————————— *Tolluntur in altum*
Ut lapsu graviore ruant. ———————————

——————————— Lift up on high
To fall into the greater Misery.

The Provincial having thus done with the Secretary, took the opportunity here, not to be unmindful of his own Services, acquainting the Board how that himself had obtained of Pedro d' Oliva, Principal of the Ignatian Order at Petropolis, the Sum of 11000 Crowns; from Jeronimo de Corbuda 10000 *l.* and of the Monks of the Benedictine Order 6000 *l.* all which Sums he told them, were now in bank in Londinopolis, ready for

for ſuch uſes as they ſhould be imployed for. Theſe Services he ſtraight ordered the Secretary, as an hanſel of his Office, to be entred into Regiſtry kept for ſuch purpoſes; I ſtood amazed to hear of ſuch prodigious Sums to be already got in, beſides what was after expected. But Philerop told me that all this was nothing, and might be counted but as their running caſh, or ſpending Money, they having already far greater Stocks in Albonia than theſe came to; as namely, one ſingle Order amongſt them of the Ignatians had, by Advocate Home's procurement, Lands ſettled in Truſt for their uſe in ſeveral Provinces in Albonia, to the value at leaſt of 60000 *l. per annum*, beſides a Stock growing at Intereſt of at leaſt 100000 *l.* you may think (ſaid Philerop) that they ſhould not know how to imploy ſo vaſt a Revenue; but if you could conſider (beſides what is neceſſary for maintenance of their numerous ſelves) the charges of their Conſults, ſending away diſpatches, buying up of Arms and Ammunition (whereof they intend to have great Stores and Magazins (concealed) in ſeveral Counties) the allowing of Penſions, beſides exceſſive Rewards (for they re-

ſolve not to be ſparing) to ſuch as ſhall perform any ſignal or deſperate Services for them. I ſay, lay all theſe together and it will abate your Wonder. I was very well pleaſed to hear from Philerop, that the Petropolitans were ſo rich and able, hoping in time when they ſhould come to be diſcovered; Our King himſelf would be never the worſe for it; very likely ſo, ſaid Philerop. But to proceed in my Narrative, as this was a general Conſult, ſo the principal Deſign of it was to conſider of a ſpeedy way of cutting off the King, whoſe ſacred life (which God long continue) they looked upon as the greateſt *Remora* to their Deſigns; ſeveral perſons came and offered to be employed in it; They refuſed none, but took them in all, that they might make ſure Work on't, and though they laid their Deſigns ſeveral wayes, yet they, whoſe Deſigns took firſt, were likely to be beſt rewarded; yet every one had a round Sum propounded for his Encouragement.

The firſt that came up and offered his Service on this Deſign, was the Devil's Daugſter the old Philiſtian that we ſaw at Strombolo, who having, as I there told you, by the means of ſome great Petropolitan

tropolitan Friends, crept into so much favour as to be attendant to the Royal Consort had so much the fairer opportunity of perpetrating his Designs; The dose of consecrated poison, that we saw the Great Bishop deliver to him at Stromboli, was the Instrument he chose for the dispatch of his Treason, as most suitable to his faculty; but for the dose of Gold then also given, he esteemed that but a retaining Fee, he resolved he would not venture his Neck for nothing, but stood gaping as he used to do over his sick Patients after he had dispatched his *Recipe's*, expecting the Proposal. The Provincial proposed 15000 *l.* (too great a Reward for a Traitor, but too little a price to value the life of such a King at) part of which was to be paid him down by the Provincial of Londinopolis, and the other to be likewise paid him when the Design was perfected. Whether he liked the proffer I know not, but I suppose he did; for having withdrawn from the Board with a low Obeysance, he promised to be careful; after he was withdrawn came up three persons two of them in Priests habits, the other in a Lay one: One of these Priests was to contrive the way and

Method of the Design, the other two were to execute it, and the way then proposed, was that they should take some opportunity of the King's walking privately in his Royal Park, and then to shoot him, to which purpose they had each of them a Pistol delivered to them, with silver Bullets (forsooth) because they were to soak in Royal Blood (which God grant they never may.) These Pistols, being made of a length more than ordinary; that they might do Execution the further, were first consecrated by the Provincial in the name of the Great Bishop; the Rewards proposed to them for this Service, was to one of them (being the Layman) the Sum of 1500*l.* to the other, being a Priest, 30000 Missals, which at 12 *d.* a Mass (the usual rate of that Commodity) amounts to the like Sum. After these came up four rude, ruffianly, hectoring Blades, I understand they were Tories or Inhabitants of Boglands, their very looks spoke Death and Terror, fit Instruments for such a purpose; these boldly bussling up to the Board, offering their Services, that they four, or some of them should shoot the King at one of his Country Pallaces Westward, where he was

then

then retired, as ſoon as they could find an opportunity fair to do it; their Motion was preſently accepted, but what rewards were agreed upon I could not well underſtand; being withdrawn to the other end of the Room, they ſtayed not long, but they withdrew alſo with a Complement, but at a huffing rate, with their hands upon their Swords, as if they had been preſently going about the Execution of the Deſign. After a little ſpace, all the aforeſaid Undertakers were called up again together to receive the Provincial's Bleſſing, but indeed to take the Oath of Secrecy, an old, but cunning Invention of the Petropolitans, to oblige undertakers to the moſt obſtinate ſilence; this Oath was made Penal with Imprecations of no leſs than Hell and Damnation to the Violators of it. This Oath they ſeverally took, by repeating the words of it, and then kiſſing the Book they were ſwore by.

This was the ſacred Padlock *wherewith they* Lockt *up the Mouths of thoſe they did employ,*
Fill'd with a Curſe, *which if it ſhould ſcape,*
Was to afflict them, tho they ſcap'd the Rope.

But this was not all, they were for farther Confirmation, ſeverally to receive the Sacrament upon it at the hands of their Prieſts or Confeſſors, before they went about their Enterpriſe, ſure bind, ſure find, ſaid the Provincial, but thought I with my ſelf, as the Devil here binds, ſo I hope God will unbind, and looſen their curſed Intrigues: This was the effect of this damned Conſult: there were other matters of leſs moment then diſpatched, which I will not now trouble you with, it being now late; ſo we fell to ſome other chat a little, and then took leave one of another: Philerop appointing a ſhort time after to meet me again, and to acquaint me further.

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

Phileroy's *Proceedings about making a Diſcovery. The* Grand Caſhier's *practiſes to ſtifle it. The* Petropolitans *Practices to ſeduce the People under ſeveral religious Diſguiſes.*

ACcording to this Appointment I met him a few daies after at our uſual place of Meeting, and having conferred notes a little of what we had obſerved ſince we came to Town. I told him my Thoughts (which I knew was agreeable enough to his mind) concerning a **Diſcovery**. He told me (with a look much more troubled than ever I had ſeen him with before) that while this **horrid Conſpiracy** againſt his **Prince** and **Country** lay concealed in his boſom, he carried a fire within him much more hot than the place we came from; but for him at that time to attempt a **Diſcovery**, being a ſtranger at **Court**, and knowing no **great**

Person there, whose acquaintance should be a means of his Introduction, and give Credit to his Testimony, he thought would be altogether in vain; and besides the Metropolitan party being now all in Town that knew him, should he attempt a Discovery before he had got some protection from the higher Powers for his security, he should be in continual danger to have his Life and Evidence taken off together. But withal he told me he would acquaint me with a secret, which he had never yet revealed to me, or any one, which was, That the Provincial Blanc-pain had enjoyned him to murther an eminent Albanian Divine one Dr. Tongus, who had lately put forth a Book, called, the Ignatians Morals, a Book so palpably detecting the Villanies of that Party, that in revenge thereof they had engaged him to that barbarous service of cutting him off. But, said Philerop, I have considered with my self, that taking hold of this Thread; I might possibly unravel the whole bottom of their Designs; and therefore I have purposed to go forthwith to the Doctor, and first to acquaint him with the Mischief intended against himself, and then to inform him of the Plot in general

ral (in its various Contrivances) againſt the King and Kingdom; to which end I have drawn up a Paper conſiſting of forty three Articles, and containing the general heads of my Diſcovery, which I intend to deliver to him, and withal to engage his aſſiſtance (being a perſon of ſo much Note and Eminency) to get it preferred to (him whom it moſt concerns) the King himſelf, with a Promiſe to appear my ſelf to juſtifie it, when ever I ſhall be thereto required.

This project of Philerop's did exceedingly well pleaſe me, wiſhing him without delay to proceed upon it, and withal to give me an account of the Reſult at our next Meeting.

Which accordingly he did, for then looking with a more gay and pleaſant Countenance than before, he told me merrily that he had been at Confeſſion; but ſaid he, it was to a Chriſtian and not a Petropolitan, tho I wiſh I may not come to be pennanced by them for ſo doing.

In fine, he acquainted me how that he had been with the Doctor, and made his Diſcoveries to him, not only of the Conſpiracy againſt himſelf, but that againſt the

King

King and Kingdom, both which he accepted very kindly; and as for the latter (as a loyal Subject concerned for the safety of his Prince) he had ingaged a Noble Collonel (a Person great at Court) to deliver the Articles into the King's own hand) which he accordingly did, taking a fit opportunity for his purpose, as the King was for his Recreation walking in his Park. And His Majesty received the same very graciously from him, and afterwards at his return from his Walk, vouchsaft to hear him more particulary of the Treason intended against him, as also an account of the Traitors themselves, their Names and Characters. But being more secure in his own Innocency, than aware of the danger threatned him, and being to go the next day to one of his Royal Pallaces in the Country, told him he would leave the Papers in the hands of his Great Cashier, and ordered the Collonel to attend him, that he might put him in mind of them, a Person whom he said he could confide in, but one that has since proved himself too much a friend to his Enemies, but not so much a friend to his Master, as the Duty of his Place, besides the Rewards of it should have obliged

liged him to have been, especially in an Affair of this Nature, wherein no less than the Life of his Soveraign was concerned. For, said Phileroy, altho for the more clear evidencing of the Design, it was offered him to produce the very Persons that should perpetrate the intended Murther (with their Weapons and Instruments of Death about them) in such time as the King should happen to take a Walk next in the aforesaid Park, and although farther the Collonel acquainted him with a means how to seise the Letters of their Correspondents, which might give a further light to the Discovery, yet all these opportunities were slighted or neglected by him: Neither would he permit any access to him by the Discoverer, to give in his farther Information; but put him off with delays from time to time, and hardly any notice taken of this important affair; so that the Progress of our Discovery being retarded thus by one that appears so much a friend to the Petropolitans, we are in danger of being Discovered our selves before we can make out our Discovery against them.

I was much dampt to hear that the Design should be thus slighted by a man in

Power

Power, and so near to the Prince's Person, as the grand Cashier (by his place) was; and withal I feared by this Instance, that the treacherous Petropolitans had corrupted more such men as he was, and by Bribes, or otherwise, drawn them over to their Interest; and, said I, if they have gained this point of us, to infeeble those that should be the Supporters of our State, and to render them defenceless to us, we may well give over stirring and leave them to play out their game; for who shall hinder them?

That will I (replied Philcrom bravely) so long as I am sure the main Pillar of all stands fast, and unshaken: I mean His Majesty, to whom I am resolved, seeing I can have no better success with his Minister, to go my self as soon as ever I can find means of access to his presence, and give in my Informations my self to him, and leave it to his own Royal Breast to consider of his own and his Kingdoms danger; I very well approved of his Resolve, and encouraged him by all means to proceed and to leave no means unattempted till he had perfected his Discovery. After a little more chat passed concerning this and other matters, we broke up for this time

time, leaving the reſt to our next Meeting.

During which time, our Petropolitan Friends ſwarmed about the Town; for I met with one or other of them very often as I walked in the Streets, and notwithſtanding their various diſguiſes, I knew them by their faces to be the ſame perſons that came over with us from Strombolo. One of them (that I knew to be a Prieſt) I ſaw go huffing along in an Hectorian Garb, Hat buttoned up, a long Periwig, and a Rapier by his ſide, I avoided taking notice of him for that time; but the next Sunday in the morning, going by an Anabaptiſt Meeting, I looked in, and ſaw my Gentleman again in another Garb, being new caſt into a religious Form, a ſhort black Cloak, black Cap, and prickt Ears (the ambuſcading Periwig being now laid aſide) little Collar Band, and other preciſe accoutrements, and having got into the Speaking-place or Pulpit, he was thus with great vehemence and earneſtneſs preaching to the unwary people. This was a Seminarian or Sower; and I perceived by this Inſtance, how cloſe they kept to their Inſtructions. I

ſtayed

ſtayed not long to hear his Diſcourſe, which all tended to **Sedition**, and to incenſe his auditors againſt the Government, but withdrew to the next neighbouring **Church**, where I heard ſomething more profitable: Not long after upon a week-day, I happened to go by a meeting of the **Enlightened men**, as they call themſelves, or **Quakers**, as we call them, where my curioſity again leading me in amongſt them, I obſerved another of our **Strombolians**, a **Seminary**, that was perkt up, and holding forth, as they uſually do, with an obſtreperous noiſe, and exceſſive bawling, ſtretching his Jaws and diſtorting his Looks with ſuch uncouth poſtures, that **Strombolo** itſelf could not afford a more **ugly** Viſage; he was in a plain, and untrimmed coloured Suit, after the guiſe of that **whimſical** People, who place more **Superſtition** in holding to their own litle Singularities, **in being contrary to other men in their Garb and Speaking**, than any they can find in thoſe they moſt condemn for it.

But **good Lord!** what a farce of **ridicule** and **Nonſenſe** did I hear from the Mouth of this cunning **Impoſtor**, who had ſo well learned their way of **Cant**, that

that he could artificially dissemble his Reason, and speak without it as well as they themselves: All that his extravagant bawling tended to, was no other than to inform them of the miserable Persecution that their dear Brethren of the Light had suffered, and were like to suffer from the Priests and men of this World, such as have denied the Truth and walk in Darkness; but the time of Vengeance was now come, yea, Judgment was at the very door, the Decree was past, the Nations should be judg'd, and the Powers of the World should be shaken, and then the Saints should be all of one Heart and one Way; with abundance of other such nonsensical Stuff, whose Coherencies were like Ropes of twisted Sand, without any cohesion: But these were the Seeds (Seditions enough) that this subtle Seminary sowed in the impressible heads of this bigotted party, who were ready enough to take any Impressions of this Nature. I tired my self for about a quarter of an hour in hearing his Harangue, and then drew off to follow my occasions. But the next day happening to go again that way, in a little Ally, hard by the aforesaid Meeting-place, whom

whom should I see in a little Coblers Stall, but the aforesaid Speaking man of Light, mending of Shoes; I knew him again exactly, and had a great desire to have a little private Conference with him, which to accomplish the better, I withdrew to a door near by, and loosening the Heel of my Shoe, by knocking it against the Grunsel, I went to the next Alehouse and sent it to the said Cobler to mend, and to bring it thither to me, which in a little time he accordingly did, and I paid him for his work: And now being alone in a room by our selves, I caused him to sit down and drink with me, and then fell to question him after this manner: I asked him if he was not a Quaker? he told me he was one of those whom the men of the World in scorn called so; and whether he did not yesterday preach to his Brethren? he told me he did then speak to them the words of Truth and Soberness as the Spirit moved him; Come, come, said I, (resolving to be plain with him) you are no Quaker but a Priest, and a Petropolitan, I know you well enough. 'Tis unexpressible what a strange damp and confusion these words of mine put him into, as appeared by the sudden alte-

alteration in his Countenance, notwithstanding he began stoutly, and with some shew of abhorrency, to deny it, till I told him it was a folly for him so to do, having my self seen him at the Consult at Strombolo, and come over with him from thence in the same Vessel; which upon better observing of me, he confessed to be true, as knowing me by the Companionship I had with Philerop in that Voyage; whereupon taking a little more heart of Grace, as thinking he had met with a Petropolitan; He enquires of me whether I was of the same Order with Philerop; which (not being willing at this time to be known what I was) I told him I was, whereupon my new model'd man of Light began to be more free and open with me, telling me the reason of his Undertaking: That he was before his entring into the Order of Priesthood, by profession, a Shoe-maker, and that (the better to disguise himself) in the management of his part in this grand affair, which he presumed, was well enough known to me, he had taken upon him now (since his return over) the Imployment of a Translator (or a Shoemaker translated) which being generally a

soci-

ſociable faculty, and none more talkative over their Cups than they are, he had thereby opportunity to inſinuate himſelf into the good opinion of the Vulgar, eſpecially the Enlightened Herd, whoſe company he moſtly uſed ſo far, that for his pretended Zeal to the humours of that idle Faction, he was ſoon admitted a Member, and quickly after a Teacher in their phrentick Meetings, and thereby got into great Eſteem amongſt them, and queſtioned not but by this means, he ſhould win over many of them to the Metropolitan Intereſt; of which his Service in this particular Agency, he intended to give the Provincial a ſatisfactory account at the next Conſult. I asked him when that would be; he told me the time and place, and I promiſed him then and there to meet him, wiſhing him in the mean while (but very feignedly) good ſucceſs in his Undertakings, and ſo after a draught or two to our better acquaintance, my Gentle-craftsman and I for this time parted, he again to his ſtall, and I to my buſineſs.

Thus to conceal *his cloven Foot*
The Devil *will draw on a Boot*;

And

And thus to hide him from our sight
The Jesuit *turns* Man of Light;
Friends, mind the Light, *(cries he) and*
(whilst they stare
To see where 'tis, they drop into his Snare.

I was methoughts passionately desirous all this while to hear from Philerop, what further Progress he had made in his Discovery: At the time appointed therefore I went with much eagerness to meet him at the usual place; I happened to be there first, but he was not long after me, bringing along with him a grave comely Person in the habit of a Divine; and this it seems (as Philerop told me) was Doctor Tongus, whom he had brought along with him at that time, to begin an acquaintance betwixt him and me, I thanked him for doing me so great an honour, so I applied my self to the Doctor, and after mutual Salutations passed betwixt us, I askt him pleasantly how he durst trust himself so freely in the company of his Murtherer: (meaning Philerop) He answered me again as pleasantly, That he took him rather for a Cheat than a Murtherer; for that he had cheated the Petropolitans of their expectations of a Revenge upon him, and that if he ever went upon the killing

killing account, he hoped it would be to murther that curſed Plot they had then on foot, and to bring that Blood which they deſigned to draw from others upon their own heads. But, ſaid the Doctor, (ſmiling) your friend Phileroy has been paid for his Service already, tho his work be unfiniſht. Ay, ſays Phileroy, that I have, but I will ſee them all hang'd before I will work any longer for them for ſuch Pay: I ſeeing this Paſſage to be managed pleaſantly on both ſides, deſired to know the Myſtery of it, which Phileroy preſently reſolved me in this manner. The payment, ſays he, that the Doctor means, I received from the hands of our Provincial Blanc-pain, who having ſome Information from the Great Duke's Confeſſor, that two perſons, the one in ſuch a kind of Habit as I now wear, (which was the noble Collonel I formerly mentioned) the other a Miniſter (the Doctor here preſent) had been with the King to make a Diſcovery of their Deſigns, concluded that I muſt needs be one of them, and ſo without any farther examination of the truth of it, the old Rogue in a great rage fell upon me & beat me; he knew that as he was my Superior, I was bound to take my

Pennance

Pennance with Submiſſion, and I durſt not at that time do otherwiſe, elſe, rather than to be ſo abuſed by a Religious Monkey, I ſhould have cuffed his treaſonable Soul out of its rotten Incloſure, and rather ventured to be ſo hanged for him, than to be hanged for ſerving him; ſo I ſpared him as a reſerve for the worſe puniſhment. After he had thus pennanced me, and his anger began to cool a little, I got liberty to ſpeak for my ſelf, and then I told him that he was wrongfully poſſeſt againſt me; for that I never was with the King ſince my coming over into Albania, which I affirmed to him (as truly I might) with many ſolemn Proteſtations: The Provincial knew we had no Diſpenſation to lye or equivocate amongſt our ſelves, though we might do it with Hereticks, and ſo ſeemed to be ſatisfied with my Vindication, and after an unjuſt Pennance gave me his Abſolution, only as a further trial of my faſtneſs to them I was to prepare my ſelf for a ſudden Voyage beyond Seas, where I was to negotiate ſome ſpecial buſineſs for them.

An account of theſe Paſſages betwixt the Provincial and me I preſently gave in to the Doctor and the noble Collonel, who

who thereupon perceiving that our Designs of a Discovery had taken scent amongst them, concluded that without farther delay we must with all Vigour proceed in the Undertaking; and to that purpose the Collonel resolved the next day to take a journey into the Country to the King, and the Doctor in the mean while was to get his Informations sworn before some Magistrate, to render them more authentique when they should come to be examined by Authority; pursuant to which Resolves, the Doctor soon after went before one Sir Edmond, a worthy Magistrate, and true friend to the King and Christian Interest, before whom he took his Oath of the truth of his Information, as they were contained in Papers there shewed to the Justice, but without permitting him to read over the particulars, but that in general they contained matters of Treason and other high Crimes, and that His Majesty had already Copies of them: In the mean while the Collonel attending at the Court, found that the great Duke's Confessor had, by some prepossessions to take off the credit of our Informations, obstructed his way so that after two days waiting he could not obtain

obtain audience; whereupon he repaired to the Grand Cashier, and acquainted him that the Original Informant was now discovered, having been beaten out of their service by one of the Petropolitan Superiours. This account his Greatness seemed to be well pleased with, yet put him off then, and so delayed him from time to time, that he could never get to speak with him, but was forced with these discouragements, after a long attendance, to return back again to Londinopolis.

During these tranlactions of the Collonel and the Doctors, I was forced to hold on my Correspondencies with my Ignatian Brethren, whom I durst not quite fall off from, till our Discovery had got so much credit as to afford me a Protection against their malice.

And this that I so much desired, was soon after by a strange accident (I question not but ordered by Providence, as well for the preservation of the Kingdom as my self) effectually brought to pass; for being one day at the Provincials house, where several Ignatians were attending to receive their Orders, I was standing without the Door, and heard them discoursing together about disposing of a Per-

son, whom they designed to take off; some of their Expressions were these: [This man has betrayed us, we will give 20l. to a Coach man to take him up, who by by-wayes shall carry him to one of the five Ports, and when we have got him beyond Sea, we will force him by tortures to confess who had been with the King and informed him of the business] I presently imagined (especially having been so lately under the suspicion of the Provincial himself) who it was they intended, and therefore thought it high time to break off from them, and to go on with my Discovery, seeing I was my self discovered, and in danger of being made away by them; wherefore concluding it was not safe for me to stay longer there, I pulled off my Shoes, that I might make no noise in my retreat, and softly crept down stairs, and got clear out of Doors; glad was I to be thus delivered out of the hands of my treacherous Companions, but durst not for that night go home to my Lodging, which was too well known to them, but concealed my self at another place. The next night I ventured, when it was something late, to go to my old Lodging to fetch some

 necessaries

necessaries that I wanted; but the mischievous Varlets had so way-laid me, that I was set upon by one of them before I got thither, and had certainly been murthered, had not Providence sent in some persons timely to my rescue, by whose kind assistance I did for that time get clear of my blood-thirsty Enemies, and resolving now wholly to quit my old Lodging, I repaired to the Brigalus in the Royal Ville, where I met my trusty Friends, the Doctor and the noble Collonel, and by their persuasions (for my better concealment) took up my quarters for some time in that place.

CHAP. VI.

The Doctor *and* Philcroy, *make their Discovery to the* King *and* Council, *and are taken into the King's Protection; The* Author's *Vision of the Murther of Sir* Edmond; *Another of the* Grand Senates *Sitting. The Author meets* Philcroy *with some* Priests *that he had* seized. Philcroy *gives him an account of his seizing*

the Phyſician, *and his Examination before the* Council; *the* Secretary *ſeized and examined.* Phileroy *gives the* Author *a full account of Sir* Edmonds *Murther, and the Practices of the* Petropolitans *to conceal it. The Murther ſtangely diſcovered.*

IMpatient we were all now to have this great affair diſpatched, and many attendances made upon the Grand Caſhier to give in ſuch farther Informations, as we had prepared to that purpoſe, but with no ſucceſs till the other night we received a Summons by one of His Greatneſs's Servants, to appear jointly before the Royal Council, in order to which having got our ſeveral Informations with Copies of them fairly drawn up, we went before the worthy Magiſtrate that took our firſt, and ſwore to them before him, and at his requeſt (having had none of them before) we left one Copy of the ſaid Informations with him.

It was his Loyalty *that did him move*
To have th' account of this damn'd Myſtery,
But little thought the keeping them would (prove
The Occaſion of his future Tragedy.

The

The Sun is compared by the Royal Psalmist, to a Bridegroom coming out of his Chamber, and to the (insulting) joy of a strong man preparing himself for a Race, to shew the free, yet vehement motions of that great Luminary in dispensing his Light to this lower World.

With the same alacrity and vigour we seemed prepar'd to communicate the Light of this great Discovery to the Orbs of Government, whereby to unbenight our Native Country from those mists of Horror and Confusion, which in a black and dismal cloud of Treason was now impending over them.

We all three attended the sacred Council at the time appointed, where His Majesty was present, and having given in our Informations, which were not only read to, but graciously accepted by that Royal Assembly. The Doctor and I had this farther favour (upon our request) granted to us, that in consideration of the imminent dangers we were liable to by this Discovery, we should have the Benefit of his Majesties Protection, and be admitted to reside, for our better security, within the Walls of his Royal Pallace, with a fair allowance for our present Support and maintenance.

A good Exchange to leave the Devil's *quarters,*
To be admitted Guests unto a King,
Where none secur'd from being made their
Martyrs,
Or to their rage given up an Offering.

I did with much sympathising joy and affection congratulate the good success of these worthy Patriots in this last undertaking, heartily wishing that so hopeful a beginning might be the Prelude and happy Omen to as good a Conclusion; we diverted our selves a little time after with some strains of Mirth and pleasancy upon the Subject of Philcrey's being beat out of the Petropolitans Service, and the preferment he had got by it, with some other discourses about the present posture of this great affair, and then taking a mutual leave of each other we broke up for this time, and departed to our several Lodgings.

My Fancy being heated with continual musing upon these Subjects, was now invigorated with such brisk and vehement fermentations, as I was by the force thereof frequently rapt into Extasies and Visions of prodigious things: As, one time methoughts I was by the *impetus*

Reading Standin in The Pillory.

Man, that he did not make his escape from him. I imagined by this Expression laid together with what I observed before, that this was indeed a Dead Man, that had been lately murther'd by these fellows; and that they were carrying him to some private place to bury him, so to avoid suspicion of his being murther'd. To resolve my self of which, I went after them to a place on the aforesaid Hill where they all staid; and taking down the dead Carkass, they laid it in a little Ditch, near to a Common Path that led that way, and then one of them drawing a Sword, that he carried in his hand out of the Scabbard, I saw him run it thorow the dead person, leaving it sticking in his Body, but no blood followed the wound that I could perceive, by which I concluded that he was indeed dead, and that this last was not the mortal thrust, but given upon some other design; but what that was I could not guess: I perceived moreover that they took the Scabbard belonging to the Sword, and the Gloves of the Murthered Person, and laid them together upon the bank of the Ditch, just by him; which having done, they all marched off together the same way they came: One

of

of them saying as they went [I wish we had an hundred such Rogues as secure as we have this.] I could not yet tell what to make of these passages, but imagined it to be some notorious piece of Villany, which time would hereafter bring to light; but I was not my self for the present able to do it; upon their departure, my Visions carried me through unknown Tracts in the Air back to my Lodging, where I had now a new Subject for my musing Thoughts to work upon.

The Town appeared to me now like a Swarm of Bees; its Inhabitants in swarms hurrying and humming up and down, having their peaceful Repose disturbed by the breaking out of this Discovery of a Plot, which filled all things with noise, tumult and distraction.

In these Extasies I seemed one time to be transported into the most glorious place that ever mine Eyes beheld; it was a spacious Room, hung round with rich Tapestry, at the upper end of which, upon a stately Throne was seated Our Great Albonian Monarch in his Royal Robes, and the Imperial Crown encircling his sacred brows, which rendred his presence very august and aw-

ful; round about him on both sides were seated an illustrious company of Grandees, in most magnificent Robes, with Coronets on their heads, which I concluded was the Peerage of the Realm; and this to be the Upper Order of the Great Senate or Assembly of Estates convened in this place, amongst whom all things relating to the Interest of King and Kingdom, are first judiciously consulted, and then such Votes, Orders and Acts passed thereupon, as they think needful to the purpose.

At the Bar, at the lower end of the House, whom should I see standing but my friend Philcrop, who I perceived was now upon his Examination before that Great Assembly concerning the matters of his Examination given in to the King; I was glad to see things brought to this ripeness, that now not only the King, but Nation too (the People whereof were representatively included in this great Assembly) should be acquainted with this Hellish Conspiracy, and that it now lay before them whose united Wisdoms could not fail finding out the Mysteries of it, & their powers as well serve them to make provisions against the Authors of

the

the Design. Methoughts I lift up my heart in a hearty prayer for a blessing upon their proceedings, and here my Vision terminated in a strange transport of joy and admiration, upon the consideration of the Divine goodness so evidently appearing in these hopeful beginnings.

Some time after methought I was walking about the West parts of the City, where I met with a crew of Watchmen and Souldiers that guarded along three or four persons, whose dejected looks well enough shewed what their Condition was; One of them (looking wistly in his face) I knew to be a Petropolitan Priest, one of those that came over with us from Stromboli. I was glad to see these Beasts of prey to be taken in our Toils; but did not presently understand who it was that chased them thither, till hearing a voice behind me crying out, look well to your Prisoner. I looked back and saw one following them drest after the Mode of the Albonian Clergy and followed at a small distance by a party of the Royal Guards, observing him more wistly, I knew him to be Philetus, I did not so much wonder at his Divinity Habit, as knowing he had Title to it by those sacred Orders

which

which he had taken up in Albonia before he fell in with the Petropolitans; the Guards I imagined were those allowed him for his defence in those dangerous Services; notwithstanding his haſt and buſineſs, I could not forbear ſpeaking to him, but his haſt would not permit him to parly with me, only taking me by the hand he whiſpered me in the Ear, that he would meet in the Evening at the uſual place, and treat me with a feaſt of Wonders. I expected indeed, having not had his company a conſiderable time ſince, to be now extraordinarily treated with accounts of things which I perceived began to work now very briskly; ſo with much ſeeming impatience, and with a world of fancies, that like Atoms flutter'd up and down in my heated brains, I dreamed away the time till Evening, and then poſted to the place where I was to meet with Philerop.

He had got thither (luckily) before me, and I found him with his Royal Guard of Partizans about him, and a Bottle of Wine upon the Table, which after I had ſaluted the Company, we drank about; Philerop being pleaſed at that time (tho a thing not uſual with him) to begin an

health

health which was to the Preſervation of His Majeſties Royal Perſon and Government againſt the Plots of the Petropolitans. This Health was eccho'd with hearty Amens, and as chearfully pledged by all the Company, amongſt whom it went round, and was laſtly pledged by my ſelf; after which Philetoy taking me by the hand, told his Guards that he had ſome private buſineſs for which he muſt withdraw from them for a little time into the next Room, bidding them in the mean time to make much of themſelves, ſo we withdrew together; and being by our ſelves, Philetoy told me, that to make good his word to me, he had with much difficulty got looſe from his buſineſs, which ſaid he, at this time lies very hard upon me; for having made my Diſcovery to the King and his Councils, they have ordered me to purſue the Chaſe of theſe Petropolitan Vermin till I have brought them into their Toils, and ſo to the Tribunals of Juſtice to receive the Reward of their Treaſons; and when you met me in the morning, I had been upon the hunt, and ſeiſed one crafty old Fox (a Prieſt) in his kennel, together with two other Petropolitans, whom

whom I carryed before the Council, and having proved my charge against them, they were by Order of that Sacred Board committed to the Den of Thieves, the fitteſt receptacle for ſuch Cattle. But to proceed in my Narrative of the State of things ſince we were laſt together, I then told you that upon my Diſcovery the King was graciouſly pleaſed to allow me a Guard for my defence (as you ſee I am now attended with) otherwiſe it had been impoſſible for me to have ventured upon diſcovering of the traiterous gang (which was the province I was now enjoyned to) without apparent danger to my own Life; yet being thus guarded, and as well defended within by my own Innocency, I have made many bold Sallies into the retreats of my abjured Friends, but now revengeful Enemies, and have not left till I have left them in the hands of Juſtice. The firſt I ſeiſed were ſome of my old Companions of the Ignatian Order; they called me Achitophel, Judas, Renegade, Apoſtate, and what not; I gave them leave to ſpeak their Will, it being the Privilege of loſers, as I ſaw plainly they were like to be in this Bargain: After theſe proceed-

ings

ings according to the Method of my Informations, I went on with the rest in Order; the next being the Physitian before mentioned, I got a Summons from the Priv Council for him to appear before that Board, where I justified my charge against him of his Undertaking to poison the King, and did prove it by a Letter under the hand of Provincial Blanpain to one of the Confederates, that he had, for the Reward of 15000 l. undertaken to do it, and that 5000 l. of the said Mony had been already paid him (as an earnest) by the Secretary; The Defence he made for himself was nothing to the purpose, or any denial of the fact, but only an insolent kind of boasting of his Loyalty to the King, expressed in some former Services done by him; what those Services were I knew not, but what the present Service was I knew so well, that I hoped he would be rewarded according to his deserts; however for that time he got off *impune*, but some little time after was taken into Custody, and committed Prisoner to the Den of Thieves, amongst the rest of his Companions.

Next after him, I proceeded against the Petropolitan Secretary (the chief Engineer

Engineer in this Plot) and having got an Order to search his house, we seized on some of his Papers, and brought them to the Council, before whom (hearing there was a Warrant out against him) he voluntarily appeared, and bore the brunt of the Articles I charged against him with a true Petropolitan Courage, that is, with impudence and slighting. However the Council thought fit to deliver him into the hands of the Lictors, and afterwards ordered him to the Den of Thieves; some farther Discovery being made of other of his Papers of a very dangerous Consequence, the consideration whereof was left to a Committee of Lords appointed for that purpose.

Then I proceeded against the Petropolitan Advocate, whom I caused to be apprehended and imprisoned with the rest.

The Petroplitans perceiving me so active in my Discoveries, and yet that I was but one single Witness (which is an Evidence too little in Law to convict in cases of Treason) began to grow insolent, and to brazen it out with Lyes and Falshoods vouched (by some powerful Friends, that they had got in to their Intereſt) that there were no Plot on foot; or

if

if there were, it was not theirs, but rather the Diſſenting Chriſtians; nay, to ſtrengthen their deſign, they wanted not ſome of the Chriſtian party themſelves (men unworthy that Title) that counting it a piece of Gentility to be ſingular in their fancies, ſpared not their Endeavours to elude the belief of it, by turning the whole truth thereof into jeſt and ridicule: Notwithſtanding which, their Artifices to conceal their Deſigns, it pleaſed God ſo to order it, that in a little time they diſcovered themſelves in a piece of Villany of undeniable proof againſt them,

For their Actings being influenced, as well by Revenge as Intereſt, they contrived now how to wreak their ſpight upon that worthy Magiſtrate, that received our Informations, and took our Oaths upon them, whoſe life they reſolved ſhould now pay for that Service.

To which end having way-laid him ſeveral dayes together by ſome of their party, whom they had confederated to that purpoſe, they dog'd him (that day they acted their Tragedy upon him) from place to place, from Morning till Night, till they had fixt him at a certain place near the Queens Pallace, where their Confede-

federates were, and where they designed to dispatch him, and then went to prepare their fellows for the bloody Undertaking against he should (as he must of necessity) come by that way. They had so laid their Design, that one of them, being a Priest, and another should begin a Quarrel, just as notice should be given that the Justice was coming by, as a means to draw him down to them, which Design of theirs accordingly took effect; for the Rogue that watched for him at the Gate leading down to the Queens Stables seeing Sir Edmond coming, presently dispatched notice to the other two to begin their pretended Fray, and that being himself well known to the Justice (as having frequented his House some time on purpose to find an opportunity to mischief him) he confidently went up to him, and telling him there were two Persons in the Yard below that had begun a quarrel, and he was afraid, if they were not suddenly parted, would murther one another; and therefore earnestly desired him to go down to them, supposing his presence, as a Magistrate, would cause them to leave off. Sir Edmond was loth to engage himself in the business, it being not so proper

for

for him, as a Justice, to intermeddle with Frays, as to punish them, besides the lateness of the night (he being an orderly person and keeping good hours at home) might have excused him from so troublesom an Office; notwithstanding all which he was overcome by the importunity of this Ruffian, to walk along with him to the place where the Fray was, which was near to the rails over against the Queens Stables, and a kind of scuffle was there in Mockery made a shew of, but no sooner did the innocent Gentleman begin to interpose his Authority to part them; but the Scene was presently altered, and that rage and Fury that they pretended against each other, was now turned upon him; these two together, with that villanous Judas that betrayed him to them, and another of their Com-rogues falling altogether upon him, got him down upon the Ground, and taking a Neckcloath or Cravat that he wore about him, and twisting it about his Neck, they pulled the Ends thereof so hard, that they soon throatled him, and by that means, and some other violences they used towards him, they deprived him of Life, and left him a senseless Car-

cass

tals prostrate at their murderous feet: The News of this Tragedy was not presently known, but being missed two or three days without any tidings come to his house of him, it was concluded by all that knew how zealous and concerned he was against the Petropolitan Plotters, that they had by some means or other murthered him; for the better Discovery of which, the King himself, as well out of a Princely abhorrency of such an horrid Fact, as the affection he had to this worthy Magistrate for the services he had done him, caused his Kopal Proclamation to be issued out, commanding a strict search and enquiry to be made about it, and promised a great Reward to any that should discover the murther (if any were) besides a Pardon to the Discoverer, if concerned in it.

This Alarm netled the Petropolitans to some purpose, and put them to their old shifts of Evasion and dissimulation; so that now they spread reports about the Town, that Sir Edmond was gone a journey into some remote Country, to be married to a great Lady, and took the confidence to name her.

But it pleased God (who seldom (if ever) leaves

leaves Murthers undiscovered, or unpunished) in a little time to reveal the Mystery of this Villany to the World; for not long after the fact two or three persons walking over the fields upon the Northside of the City, near to a certain Hill there, well known to, and frequented by the Towns men, they discovered lying in a Ditch, the Body of a man, habited like a Gentleman or Schollar in black cloaths, his Perriwig, Gloves, and Scabbard of his Sword lying upon the bank by him, and a Sword run through his Body, but without any blood appearing; surprized at this tragical Sight, and knowing it was fit there should be a legal Enquiry made into the causes of it, they found out an Officer of the Peace whom they brought to the place, and from thence conveyed by them to another place, where the Body might be more conveniently viewed by those that came to see it.

It is remarkable that his Rings, Watch, and some Moneys both Gold and Silver were found in his Pocket, which should evidence that he was not murthered by Thieves or Robbers, but that it was done either out of revenge by some others, or in discontent by himself. The

The Petropolitans as well to excuse themselves, as out of a farther Revenge to him, by taking away his Good name as they had done his Life, would have fixt it upon the latter, and to that end they had left his own Sword sticking in his Body, but without any Blood appearing to be let out by it; nor did they spare to confirm this suspicion with reports about the Town, that Sir Edmond being a melancholy man, had in a fit of Discontent acted this Murther upon himself.

But it pleased God upon this Discovery of his Body, to bring things so about, that in a short time both his Innocency was cleared, and their Villany detected.

The rumour of this Murther being quickly spread about the Town, drew many people to the place, out of curiosity to see the murthered Body, of whom several of them that were acquainted with him in his life time, knew it to be the Body of Sir Edmond; whereupon his mournful Relations upon notice of it, took him into their Custody, in order to bestow upon him (as he deserved, and afterwards had) a decent and becoming Funeral.

CHAP.

CHAP. VII.

Captain Lobed *comes in a Discoverer. The* Queens Goldsmith *seized, as one of Sir* Edmond's *Murtherers; His Confession and Discovery. The* Author's Vision *of* Staley's Ghost; *the Narrative of his* Treasons *and Sufferings. The Author in a Vision meets the* Ghost *of the* Secretary, *with whom he travels to* Stromboli. *A Court there holden by* Radamanthus; *the* Secretary, *and other* Albonian *Traitors, that were executed for their* Treasons, *examined by him, to whom they give an account of their* Sufferings, *and are all sent to* Purgatory.

THis Narrative of Philerun's put me in mind of my late Vision, which hereupon I acquainted him with, and concluded by the congruity of Circumstances, that this was the very person that I saw then carried dead before a man on Horseback, and afterwards laid in a Ditch, and his Sword by one of them run through him and left in his Body. And

And all this, ſaid Phileroy, has happened to be true, as hath been ſince proved by ſome unexpected Evidences, that God by his providence hath raiſed to confirm the truth of it. The firſt whereof was one Captain Lobed, ſometimes a retainer to one of the Petropolitan Lords, and by him recommended to ſome of the chiefs of that party beyond the Seas, where he had got ſo much credit amongſt them (eſpecially the Ignatian Order) that they imployed him, as their Agent in ſeveral Negotiations about the preſent Plot, carrying Letters into foreign parts where the buſineſs required, and other Services; by which means he came to have an underſtanding of their preſent Deſigns.

He continued thus a Servant to them till after the time that I had made my Diſcovery, when being jealous leſt he alſo ſhould become a Diſcoverer, they obliged him by taking the Sacrament and the Oath of Secrecy once a week, to continue faithful to them.

And then treated with him about their Deſign to murther Sir Edmond B. and to get an acquaintance with him upon that account, and told him that there was

4000 l.

4000 l. offered, by the Petropolitan Lord whom he had ſerved, to any perſon that ſhould effect it, which was to be paid by the Petropolitan Secretary; but he out of a natural principle of honeſty, abhorring their Deſigns, ſtill failed them at the times appointed, only once was preſent with the reſt of the confederates at their requeſt, to ſee the Murthered Body, where he took notice of the perſons concerned in it, and underſtood ſomething of their Proceedings; but being diſturbed in his mind about it, he retired to a City on the Weſtern parts of Albania, whence he diſpatched Letters to one of the Royal Secretaries; upon which he was ſent for back to Londinopolis, and made his Diſcovery which (notwithſtanding that he and I had never any acquaintance or knowledge of each other) agreed ſo exactly with mine, that it got a better credit to the Belief, and proved a greater Confirmation of the preſent Plot.

After this, one of the Confederates in the aforeſaid Murther, by Trade a Gold-Smith, and ſervant to the Royal Conſort, having, before the aforeſaid Murther, in a Coffee-houſe offered to defend the caſe of ſome Petropolitan Traitors

that had been lately executed, and being himself known to be a Petropolitan, fearing to be called in question about what he had said, did therefore abscond himself for two or three dayes from his house. But some time after, a quarrel happening betwixt him and one of his Neighbours, who understood by a Servant of his, that the time of the Goldsmith's absconding was about the time of Sir Edmond's Murther. He went presently to the Council, and charged him as a Confederate in that Design: A Warrant was issued out against him to answer the Charge, upon which he appeared, and Captain Lowry being present, knew him again to be one of the persons concerned in the said Murther, and swore it against him; whereupon he was by Order committed to the Den of Thieves; but the next day made a Discovery of the Design, and the Persons concerned in it; who were thereupon taken into Custody. Yet, although the Petropolitans had prevailed so far with him, as to deny what he had said, the Impulses of his own Conscience, besides the promise of a Pardon and Reward to any that should make a Discovery of it, by the Kings Proclamation, obliged him to

assert

assert the truth of his first Information, (which he hath since published to the World) and therein gave an account, how that after they had strangled Sir Edmond, as I before told you, they conveyed him into the Pallace where they kept him (shifting the Body out of one Room into another for the more privacy) for two or three dayes till they had an opportunity to remove him to the place where they designed to leave him.

The Evening that they designed to remove him, having got the Souldiers that attended at the Court Gates out of the way, at a drinking match that they had provided for them, they had hired a Sedan, into which they put the murthered Body; and two of them carrying it out of Town, late at night, when few people were stirring, at the Towns end they set the Body upon an horse, with which one of them was there ready, and with two or three more of their Confederates, that walked a foot by them, they carried him in that manner that you saw him in your Vision, to the place where he was afterwards discovered, as I have told you.

This Witness hath discovered the Russians

ſtants ingaged in this Murther, the principal of whom, being Vernatti, is ſince fled, as alſo two other Prieſts concerned in it, but three of them that were actual inſtruments in the Murther, one of them being the Porter at the Court Gates, and two others that were there, Servants to the Royal Conſort, have ſince been taken into Cuſtody, and at the Petition of the Great Senate, a Court of Juſtice ſummoned by the King, before whom they have been tried, and by many undeniable proofs brought againſt them by the aforeſaid Witneſs, and others that came in againſt them, they were legally convicted and condemned, and have ſince received the juſt reward of their horrid and unparallel'd Villany at the Tiburnian Trident.

The Body of this martyred Worthy, attended by the Magiſtrates of the City, and many of the Nobility and Gentry in a numerous company, was carried to one of the principal Churches in the Weſt parts of the City, where, after an elegant Oration made upon the Occaſion, by an eminent Prelate of the Albonian Church, it was with many Tears and Lamentations afterwards decently interred.

An

An Honest, Worthy, Loyal Magistrate,
Who was the Proto-Martyr *for the State;*
His Death *preserved our* Lives *by pointing*
out
The curs'd Designs *the* Papists *were a-*
bout.
The Justice *as an Enemy to their Cause*
Must dye; could they as well have kill'd the
Laws,
Oh, happy Rome! *how would the* Devils
Brats
Insult, and we no Laws *nor* Magistrates
To punish them; The Sword of Justice *yet*
Is keen, and we have men to manage it,
And mangre all the Plots *they have* devis'd,
All are not Godfrey'd *yet, nor* Arnoldis'd,
His Name shall live, and we shall live to
see
Their Plots to end in their own Tragedie.

The murther of this Loyal Gentleman gave so great a light to the Discovery of the Petropolitan Designs, that the Great Senate of the Nation (being now met together) were pleased to take notice of it, and after having examined me and some other Evidences (that were summoned in) upon the particulars of the Plot, they came to this unanimous Resolution which was recorded in their

Journals: [That there has been, and is a damnable and hellish Plot contrived and carryed on by the Popish Recusants, for assassinating and murthering the King, and for subverting the Government, and destroying the Protestant Religion by Law established.]

This being made matter of Record by one of the three grand Estates of the Kingdom, is a sufficient Confirmation to all the World, of the reality of the Petropolitans Design against us.

But (said Philerop) my Narrative having wasted time, I must be now obliged to return to my Company, and leave the rest to the next Convenience we shall have of meeting.

So for this time we brake up our Conference, and going back to the Company we had left in the other room, we took a glass or two with them, and then friendly parted.

It was not long after this meeting, that I was by the Impulse and Extasie of these Visions, transported to a solitary place not far from the City, but near adjoyning to the Tiburnian Trident (become now sacred in the Eyes of the Petropolitans,

tropolitans, by the Martyrdom of their Confederates) where I discovered a tall Person, halting and limping along in a strange untoward posture, and now and then reeling, as if he were falling to the ground; I imagined that something extraordinary was the cause of his disorderly motions, and that he was either drunk, or troubled with some kind of Epileptick fits; to be resolved of which, and out of Compassion to his Condition, I drew towards him, but going to take hold of him, he flew from me like the Wind, and I took hold of nothing; whereupon I concluded he was a Spirit, but being now my self an extasied Person, I dreaded no apparitions, but pursued the Spectrum for a better acquaintance.

Upon my next View of him, he began to make an hellish noise (that scarred me ten times more than the sight of him) and withal his Tongue hanging out of his Mouth, swelled, and of a loathsom black colour; I saw him snapping it betwixt his Teeth in a most cruel manner, so that the blood seemed to run about his Jaws, and sometimes with one of his hands he seemed to tear and scratch the other in the like unmerciful manner; his actions appeared

to me a ſtrange kind of ſelfe-revenge, ſuch like as the Pettropolitans uſe to inflict upon themſelves in way of Penitance, but for what cauſe, or to what purpoſe, I know not; wherefore to be reſolved, I asked him two or three Queſtions, which as ſoon as he could get his mortified Tongue into his mouth, he civilly anſwered me. Firſt, I demanded what he he was--He told me, he could not tell, but asked me what I was, for he never ſaw any thing like an humane creature, ſince he came out of the other World: Why, what World, ſaid I, do you think we are in now? I know not (replyed he) but it is a ſtrange World to me, having loſt my friends, company, eſtate, hopes; nay, and my body too all in an inſtant; your body man, ſaid I, why, what Body have you now? or have you any at all? I cannot tell, replyed he, what I am, or where I am; whatever form I appear in to you, you need not fear me, for I aſſure you, I can neither bite nor ſcratch, having left my body lately at the Tiburnian Trident, mangled by the hands of a cruel Carnifico into four quarters; I took a ſad leave of them, and what is become of them I know not, being ſince become a Wan-

Wanderer in ſhades of darkneſs, to find out that place of light and happineſs which the Petropolitans told me would be the certain portion of all ſuch as dyed in that Cauſe that I ſuffer'd for: Why, ſaid I then, were you a Petropolitan? Ay, replyed he, or I had never left the other world ſo untimely; it was my Zeal, my Zeal for their Curſed Cauſe--and with that he began to bite his Tongue afreſh, and to rave at the rate he had before done: I ſtay'd with ſome trouble in my ſpirit till his paſſion was over, and he began a little to recover himſelf; and then I asked him the meaning of his biting his Tongue in that violent manner; he told me, it was but a juſt Revenge he took upon that Member for betraying him to that Curſed End; but, ſaid he, to ſatisfie your Curioſity at once (for I perceive you are a ſtranger to the affairs of the other world, as well as I am now:) I will tell you in ſhort the Hiſtory of my Tragedy; I was upon Earth the Son of a Citizen of Londinopolis, and a Petropolitan, and being educated and inſtructed in that Religion, I betook my ſelf for ſome time to travel, where I was farther inſtructed in the Policies of that People, and of a

Design they had laid against my late native Country of Albonia, which I suppose is yet on foot, although I am untimely taken off from seeing the end of it? Upon my return into Albonia I was imployed by my Father to look after the Cash which (he being by trade a Goldsmith) was intrusted in his hands by the Petropolitan Party; but the Plot, for carrying on of which the said Mony was treasured up, coming unluckily to be Discover'd; they began to call in their Monies so fast, that I began thereby to be perplexed and confused in my mind about clearing my accounts with them; upon this I contracted such a spight and revenge in my mind against the Albonian Government as the cause of this disaster, that I could not forbear letting loose this cursed Tongue of mine one time amongst Company, where I was overheard into these expressions which I then spake in the Franconian Lingua, my Consorts being of that Country [The King of Albonia is a grand Heretick, and the greatest Rogue in the World: There's the Heart (striking his hand upon his Breast) and here's the hand that will kill him my self]

Some

Some other words I ſpoke to the like purpoſe, treaſonable enough; all which being overheard by the Company in the next room: One of them, a Loyal Gentleman, was ſo exaſperated thereby, that he drew towards the room (where we were) to have run me through with his Sword, and had done it, had not his Friend interpoſed; ſo they ſpared me for this time to reſerve me for a worſe puniſhment; for upon this they having enquired out my Lodging, preſently went and gave in their Informations of this paſſage, (for by the Laws of Albonia, no man dares conceal Treaſon, as this was, under peril of his own Life) and thereupon the next day being ſummoned to anſwer it before the King and his Council, I was by them committed to the Den of Thieves, where I remained till my Tryal, and then upon clear proof made of the words ſpoken, (notwithſtanding I would fain have made my Tongue then to have looſened what it had tied before by ſome Petropolitan Evaſion) it was the opinion of the Court, that I deſerved to dye, and had Judgment accordingly paſſed upon me to be executed as a Traitor, by ſtrangling and diſmembring of my Body, which Sen-

Sentence has been lately executed upon me; and now Bodiless as I am, I wander in these Shades to find a rest: The little comfort I have is, that before this time my poor limbs are disposed by my Friends in some quiet repository, that they may not remain as standing Dishes for Kites and Crows to feed on. But Oh this Tongue, this Tongue! (cryed he) beginning then to rave again as before. I advised him, seeing that noisy Instrument was so great a torment to him, to bite it off, rather than to be troubled with the keeping of it, telling him withal that I was going back to the other World, and if he thought good, would take it along with me, and present it to some of his Petropolitan Friends, who, no doubt, would dearly esteem it as a precious Relict. No, said he, it deserves no such foolish honours, although such (for ought I can see) be the only Recompence that the Petropolitan Church allows its Martyrs (as they call us), when they suffer in its Cause. I will rather keep it to punish it for my own folly; and with that gnashing upon it twice or thrice, as a Token of his Revenge, I heard him give a shriek, and then presently disappeared.

Fare-

Farewel *thou poor deluded* Ghoſt, *farewel,*
Stories unto the other World *go tell*
Of thine own folly, *let this be thy Note,*
I am the Caitiff *that hath cut my Throat*
With my own Tongue, *curs'd be that Zeal*
(that firſt
Inflam'd it, and that deviliſh Cauſe *be*
(curſt
That caus'd it; Now the difference I feel
'Twixt ſober Actions *and a* wrong-plac'd
Zeal.

My Viſion preſently carried me back to the City, entring into which by one of the Gates, methoughts I ſaw upon the battlements of it, fixed upon a long Pole, the Arms and Shoulders of a Man, with many Spectators gazing at it; I ſuppoſing it to be of the quarters of ſome Traitor lately executed, enquired of one of the By-ſtanders whoſe it was; he told me it was the Goldſmith's that was lately executed for ſpeaking treaſonable words againſt the King. Why, ſaid I, were not his quarters buried? Yes, replied the other, by the King's leave he was ſuffered to be buried; but his Petropolitan Friends, to take of the ignominie of his End, performed it with ſo much ſuperſtitious Devotion, beſides the extraordinary pomp

of

of it, as if it had been the funeral of some great Saint, or Worthy, rather than a Traitor; which being looked upon as an affront both to the Government and Justice of the Nation: His Body was Ordered to be taken up again, and the mangled quarters of it to be set up on some of the principal Gates of the City, in such manner as this here is disposed of. I could not but think now how the poor Ghost was cheated, thinking his Body might have been suckling of Worms in some earthly repository, when alas (the thing he so much abhorred) it was hung up for Birds meat.

I was, not long after, transported by a like Vision into a most dismal place, and full of Horror, I expected I was then again in the Regions of the Dead, and that I should meet some more Spectrums, as one I did, a proper comly Person to look to, but in his motion, his limbs quivered and shook about him, as if they had been hung on with wires, and his head, though he could not keep it from wagging every way, yet he would often throw it up, and seem to look very loftily about him; before I came near him, I heard him use this expression, repeating it often with

a stern

a ſtern and angry voice, There is no Faith in Man. Where am I now? Is this the Reward of my ſervice? Is this the Elizium of Martyrs? or where ſhall I find it? But perceiving me now to draw near him, he courteouſly ſaluted me with a [Comment portez vous Monſieur] I imagined by his dialect, together with his crinkling poſtures, that he was ſome Frenchified Perſon, but looking wiſely upon him, I knew him to be one that much uſed that Lingua, and that he was the famous Petropolitan Secretary, whom I perceiv'd Juſtice had ſent into thoſe Shades to ſeek the Rewards of his Martyrdom, I anſwer'd the civility of his ſalute with a bien, merey Dieu, Mounſieur Secretary, Why, ſaid he (wondring at the appellation) Do you know me? very well ſaid I; I remember you at the Conſult at Strombole, and have often ſeen you in Albania, and am well acquainted with your Hiſtory both of your ſervices and ſufferings in the Petropolitan Cauſe; why then you are a Petropolitan, I perceive, replyed the Secretary; Are you a Martyr for the Cauſe? No, ſaid I, nor ever will be as long as I have life left me upon Earth to ſpend in

better

better ſervices. The more **Fool** was I, ſaid he, to loſe my own life ſo ſimply, but it was my dependance upon my great friends that made me hazard it ſo *Centrouſly* (otherwiſe a free confeſſion might have ſaved it) but they fearing I ſhould babble ſomething to their prejudice, reſolved to prevent me by leaving me to the courſe of Juſtice, and ſlipping me out of the hands of their protection, dropt me into that fatal **Nooſe** that brought me hither. Well, **There is no Faith in Man**. But now that I am looſed from that treacherous Race of Mankind, what company ſhall I have next, and where lyes my way; Are you (Sir) acquainted with theſe Countries? No, ſaid I, I am a **Stranger** in them, being an Inhabitant of the **Earth**, only was brought hither by an **Extaſie** for a **Diverſion**; however, as long as my ſtay ſuffers me, I will bear you company in your way to whatever place you are determined: Diſcourſing thus together in a moving poſture, a little farther we entred upon a **Road**, riſing with a winding aſcent, and well beaten by Travellers; as we marched along, to divert the way, I deſired my **limping Companion** to give me an account of his

Tryal

Tryal and Execution; for as to the previous matters of his actings in the Petropolitan Service, I told him I was already sufficiently acquainted with them. This my Requeſt he readily granted, and informed me, that at his Tryal before the great Albonian Tribunal, being charged with High-Treaſon againſt the King and Government, his Papers that were before ſeized by Philerop, were produced in Evidence againſt him, by which it appeared that he had on the behalf of his great Maſter held a ſtrict correſpondence with the Confeſſor of the Franconian Monarch, to prevail with that Prince for moneys to carry on the Petropolitan Deſigns, and by keeping off the Great Senates Sitting, to preſerve the Great Dukes title undiſturbed until ſuch time as they could rid the King out of the way, by the contrivances of thoſe that were deſigned to do it; That it was farther proved againſt him, that to expedite the taking off the King, and to encourage the Deſign, he gave money himſelf, and promiſed great ſums in the behalf of others, to ſuch as ſhould attempt it; for which, and ſeveral other acts of the like nature, which he thought to be highly

Meritо-

Meritorious, in respect it was for the Petropolitan Cause, he was by the Judgment of the Court condemned to suffer as a Traytor; which Sentence was shortly after accordingly Executed upon him, altho he depended to the very last gasp upon the kindness of his Great Friends to free him from it; but how he was rewarded for these his sufferings and services, he was yet to seek.

At the Conclusion of this Discourse I heard a crackling noise, and perceiv'd the glimmerings of some fiery irruptions ascending as 'twere out of the Earth, which made me think we might be now again at (the place we lately came from) Stromboio, and so it was as it happened; for as we drew nearer, I perceived the passage into the Purgatorian Confines, where a Scout standing ready presently seized upon the Secretary, and hurryed him into it: I was my Self so secured by the Magick of my Visions, that I dreaded no dangers either from Flesh or Spirit, and so boldly ventured in after him, where in the Great Room where the Consult was formerly held, I perceived a company of Sooty Feinds like Victors, or Officers of Justice, with Whips, Chains and

and Fetters, walking up and down the Room, expecting Orders: For it seems there was a Court held there; At this time Rhadamanthus, the Judge of that Place, sitting in great State at a Table in his fiery Purple, to Try the Prisoners that should be brought before him. At the same Board I saw the Great Bishop (with some of his Scarlet Senate, all now in black) sitting in a very melancholy and dumpish posture, I imagined it was for that their Designs succeeded no better in Albonia. The Officer bringing up his Prisoner to the Board, he imagined, I suppose, that they were holding another Council, and so was going to take his place as Secretary, and sit down amongst them: But the Victor pulling him back, carryed him before Rhadamanthus, telling him, the case was now alter'd; and that he was not there now as Secretary, but as a Prisoner; and that he must answer to the Judge there such Questions as he should be demanded; who presently demanded of him for what Cause he came thither, he told him, for being over-credulous in confiding to his deceitful friends, but he hoped the Great Bishop (turning himself towards him) would not

prove

prove one of them, having performed ſuch ſignal duty in the ſervices he was employed in, and for which he was rewarded as a Traytor, with a bitter and ſevere Martyrdom; the accounts of all which to the purpoſe of what is before related, he fully gave them, and hoped, that upon the merits of the ſame, he ſhould be condignly rewarded, as he was all along made to believe he ſhould, if ever Fate brought him to that Condition: The Great Biſhop ſhook his head a little in way of compaſſion, telling him, he was ſorry for his ſufferings, and that thereby they had loſt the benefit of his future ſervices, but that he might thank his own Folly in being ſo over-credulous in truſting to the Faith of Man, when he knew the Petropolitans uſed theirs no farther than their Intereſt ſerved: However, knowing him to be one of an ambitious humour, he would in requital of his paſt-ſervices, deſire of Rhadamanthus the Judge, to prefer him, and that he might be promoted to the place of Secretary in Chief to Don Lucifero, which at the Grand Viccars Requeſt was accordingly granted; and thereupon he was led away by the Officer towards the Sulphurian

phurian Pallace, to take poſſeſſion of his New Office.

No ſooner was the Secretary carried off, but in comes another (led by a Lictor) who I perceived was the Gentleman I firſt met in the Regions of the Dead, champing the Bit (with his Tongue betwixt his Teeth) as when I firſt ſaw him: Rhadamanthus demanding of him whence he came, he told him, from the Tiburnian Trident, where he received his Martyrdom for the Petropolitan Cauſe: The Great Biſhop then asked him, what ſervices he had done them, he anſwered, that he confeſſed that the greateſt ſervices he had done, was with his t, t, Tongue, in treaſonably ſpeaking his intentions of Cutting off the Albonian King, that it was that curſed t, t, Tongue that ſaid it. In pronouncing which, he gnaſhed his Tongue with his Teeth ſo vehemently, that he could not ſpeak without ſtammering: But the Vicar replyed, That his ſervice was ſo ſlender, as no great reward could be due to it; and that tho he was to be commended for his Zeal, yet he deſerved to be puniſhed for his folly, for looking to his Tongue no better; and therefore left him

him to the ſentence of the Judge, who preſently ordered him to be carried down to **Purgatory**, which was done accordingly.

Next after him were brought up the three bloody Murtherers of the **Albonian Juſtice**. They gave in a large account of their Services and Sufferings, in ſo much that the **Great Biſhop** himſelf began to plead in favour of them; but **Rhadamanthus** was ſo incenſed, that the Violence was done to a **Magiſtrate**, that he reſented it as an affront to himſelf, being one in that place, and therefore ordered their **Lictors** to carry them away, and to puniſh them ſeverely as Contemners of Juſtice; upon hearing their Sentence, they all fell a howling moſt terribly, and hung an arſe, as loth to leave the place; but *Volentes Nolentes*, the **Lictors** hurried them away: **For they muſt needs go whom the Devil drives.**

The **Great Biſhop** ſeemed ſomewhat diſpleaſed at the ſeverity of this Sentence but **Rhadamanthus** told him, that if he ſuffered his **Martyrs** to come to receive their Rewards from him, they ſhould expect no better.

Afterwards came up three other **Ruffians**

ſians, Tiburnian Martyrs alſo: Their names, as they gave them in to the Judge, were Bogland, Ringepick, and Wood. Theſe were the Villains that undertook to take away the ſacred Life of the Albonian Prince; two of them viz. Bogland and Ringepick were Prieſts, the other a Layman. The account they gave of their Services, was to this effect: That at a Grand Conſult held in Londinopolis, a Reſolve being there drawn up by the Petropolitans for the killing of the King, they three had ſubſcribed the ſame, and reſolved to attempt it: Bogland being to contrive the way of doing it, and the other two to execute it; for which Services (when performed) one of them was to receive 1500 l. the other 30000 Maſſes, amounting to the like value.

That in purſuance of this Reſolve, they two having armed themſelves with ſhort Guns, fit for the purpoſe, did once attempt to ſhoot the King walking in his Park near the Pallace of St. Jaques; but the party that was to fire, perceiving the flint of his Carabine to be looſe, durſt not attempt it, for which neglect as it was eſteemed, the party was pennanc'd by his Superior with twenty or thirty

ſtroaks

ſtroaks of Diſcipline, yet they reſolved to proceed with their Deſign, but could never find an opportunity to do it.

That they afterwards were taken by Phileroy, who being revolted from the Petropolitans, had now diſcovered their Deſigns and Parties concerned in them to the King himſelf. Pox take him (quoth the Vicar, biting his nails for madneſs) that Rogue has undone us all.

That being brought to their Trials before the Tribunal of Juſtice, Phileroy and one Lobed a Renegade Diſcoverer, both of them formerly Meſſengers to the Conſults, appeared againſt them, and gave in full proof of the aforeſaid particulars, upon which (notwithſtanding they did in vain endeavour to invalidate their Evidence by ſlanders raiſed againſt them) they were by the Juſtice of the Court condemned as Traytors, and were accordingly executed; Bogland and Wood firſt, and Kingepick ſome time after, by ſtrangling and diſmembring.

That at their Deaths they were ſo careful not to betray the Cauſe they dyed for, that they rather ventured upon the Diſpleaſure of the great Jehovah, by dying with a Lye in their Mouths, in denying the

the fact, than to incur His Vicarſhip's Diſpleaſure, or to prejudice his Cauſe by an untimely Confeſſion; and therefore hoped His Unholineſs would grant them the rewards of Martyrdom, and give them the turn of his Key to let them into Paradiſe.

The Vicar, who could hardly forbear ſmiling under his Hat, to ſee the folly of his deluded Martyrs, told them gravely, that indeed he was ſorry to ſee them there; for that they had miſtaken their way, and inſtead of Paradiſe they were come to Purgatory; but however neither could he make uſe of his Key if they were at the Gates of Paradiſe; for that the Wards of the Lock that ſhould open them were lately altered, upon ſome diſtaſte taken there at their violent proceedings againſt the Chriſtians, ſo that he could not open them, till ſuch time as he could procure another Key.

☞ —*Which* Key *His* Viccarſhip *will find When* Rome *turns honeſt, or the* Devil *blind.*

However he told them that as they had loſt their Rewards on Earth, by their not performing what they had undertaken; ſo they could not expect to be otherwiſe rewarded here than as Bunglers,

in betraying a Design which they should have executed,

Thus right or wrong the Vicar saves his Bacon,
By telling all his Friends they are mistaken.

and so leaves them to the Judgment of Rhadamanthus, who presently orders his Janizaries to convey them to the Fiery Garison, where he told them there was a very warm room provided for Regicides, and they should have Entertainment accordingly, besides the Society of some of their Albonian Country men, as Guido Faux, Ravillack, and others of the King-killing crew, who had been long his Prisoners, and, he questioned not, would be glad of their Company. This was all the Comfort they could get in this place; so they were carried away after their fellows.

However it was no small pleasure to me to see my old acquaintance, these Strombolians returned hither in this manner instead of making their publick Orations at Petropolis, as they expected.

Some small time after these, was produced another crippled Martyr, one of the Hangman's jointed Babies, whose Limbs hung about him like wire works, by

by reason of his late dismembring at his Execution, yet a grave comely person to look on: upon view of his Countenance I knew him to be the Petropolitan Advocate. At his coming up, seeing them sit in form of a Court, and that he was to be tryed before them, he began like a Lawyer to put questions to them, demanding of them *Quo Warranto* they sate, and what Jurisdiction they claimed, and that if they had any thing there to charge him with, he had already made satisfaction upon Earth, upon an Execution executed upon his Body, Limbs and Members, and therefore demanded the Judgment of the Court, *si ulterius implitetur*, with such like ranting terms, which the judge Rhadamanthus heartily laughed at, who told him, that though they had several of his Profession in that Place, yet they used no other Law there but their own, by which he was now to be tried; and therefore without more adoe required him to give an account for what cause he was brought thither.

The Advocate turning his head & seeing the old Vicar sitting at the other end of the Board, enquired if he were in Commission as a Judge there, or no;

Rhadamanthus answered him no; he was only an Associate, and that he himself was the sole Judge in that place, and that he must direct his Speech to him, which the Advocate after a formal cringe accordingly did, beginning thus.

May it please your Lordship (or) Devilship, if it please you.

I was, while upon Earth, Advocate to the Petropolitans, and retained by them at the Conclave here lately holden, to be assistant to them in their present Designs; pursuant to which, since my return into Albonia, I performed them these Services; as namely, by contriving Settlements of such Estates as they had purchased, in such Dispositions as they might be secured of the same; by holding Correspondence with the Francomian Conclave; by encouraging the Designs and Agents imployed for the killing of the King; by taking care of delivering out the Commissions granted by His Dittarship to the Petropolitan Lords, and others of Places and Offices conferred upon them; by procuring 6000 *l.* of the Benedictine Fraternity for carrying on of the Cause; in the *interim* of these my Endeavours, the Plot being discovered

by

by Philcroy, I was upon his Information seised, and brought to my Tryal, when upon his and other Witnesses, fully proving the aforesaid matters against me, I was, according to the Albonian Laws, condemned to suffer the penalties of High-Treason, which was executed upon me accordingly; yet at my Death I stoutly denied the fact, as I heard those that had gone that way before me had done.

These were my services, and these have been my sufferings; for which I hope and expect by your gracious suffrages, to receive the honorary Fee of Martyrdom.

Out upon't, cryed Rhadamanthus, laughing heartily, a Fee for your Folly! we have many Lawyers that are punisht here for their knaveries done in the other World, but none that I know for being thrust out of it by their own folly, as you have been, and therefore for that, if not for your knavery, you must be punish'd; so look to him Gaoler, and then he was carried off.

At last to make up the full complement of Martyrs, were brought up the five great Worthies of the Ignatian Order, who had been the most active and stirring, in carrying on this Conspiracy, of all

others (*viz.*) The Provincial Blancpain, Father Courthar, Father Danga, Father Michelsen, and Father Tomero, all of them, as appeared by the tales they told there, were lately Executed together at the Tyburnian Trident; I could but think with my self how gay and jocund these Gentlemen were when I saw them last here consulting upon their Designs, and now how pitifully they looked; they would fain have made their application to his Victarship, who at their coming up gave them a formal bow, for old acquaintance sake; but Rhadamanthus perceiving it, angrily called to them to come before him, looking at them the while, as they say the Devil looks over Lincoln, as if he would devour them: For the Truth is, the Devil (however sometimes they juggle together for their own ends) loves Priests and holy Water both alike (*i.e.*) he cares not a Fart for either of them; as appears by the sequel; for after they were forc'd to come before him, Father Danga began in an elegant discourse (as he was one indued with a good stock of Eloquence) to set forth the priviledges of Priesthood, and that as they were Spiritual Persons, they ought to be tryed by

none

none but the Spiritualty, and therefore they appealed to his Vicarship: Why, What the Devil do you make of me (sayes Rhadamanthus) an Ass, or an Hobby-horse? I will maintain it, I am more Spiritual than you, or your Vicar himself; And where, I wonder, lyes this precious Spirituality of yours? in the Metaphysical imbraces of your Beloved Courtezans in the Seraphique pleasures of delicious drinking and feeding, or in the refined morals of bloody and villanous practices, such as makes Hell it self to blush at you for out-doing them in wickedness: Well, you see what your Spiritual practices have brought you to; but indeed, had you been as truly Spiritual as I am, you had saved your selves a Martyrdom, and cheated the Hangman of your Quarters; but I will not be trifled with Gentlemen, and therefore come to the business, and tell me plainly for what you came hither.

They seeing there was no trifling with this Angry Devil, did then severally give accounts to him of their practices and Sufferings; which Practices, though in some particulars they differ'd, yet in the main were complicated toge-

ther, as being joynt Associates, that had the management and direction of the inferiour Undertakers. Blancpaine confessed (or rather boasted) that (as he was Provincial) it was by his Authority and Order, that their grand Consult was holden at the Blanc-cheval, where they joyntly subscribed an Instrument of a Resolve to take away the life of the King: Courthar alledged, that he was the man that gave 80 Guinies to the Ruffians that were to Assassinate the King, besides one Guiny to the Messenger that carried them to drink the Secretary's health with? And that he did also give 2000 *l.* to the Physician that was to poison the King; Danga insisted upon his great Zeal, in stirring up, and incouraging Villains to prosecute the King's Murther; and as soon as the Deed was done, to charge it (as they have endeavoured all along in other their practices to do) upon the Christian Dissenters. The other two acknowledged they were all along assisting and contriving with the rest for the carrying on of the Design to Murther the King; that for these and the like practices they had been apprehended and tryed; and the truth of the afore-

aforesaid facts being particular, and proved against them by several Witnesses, they were therefore condemned and executed as Traytors; yet that at their Deaths they all stoutly denyed the Facts, that the Cause might not suffer by their doing otherwise; for which act of courage at last they hoped they should be rewarded accordingly.

And that you shall, I assure you, quoth Rhadamanthus, ho, ho, ho, you are pure Spiritual Villains a-faith, to think, because you can cheat the world with your lyes and Equivocations, that you can cheat the Almighty, who is Truth it self; or dare to provoke his angry Vengeance with a dying Falshood; or did you think your Cheating Vicars Dispensations could reach to the other World? or that Heaven would renew them? Poor Souls! how miserably are you cheated! I have no more to say to you, but to pronounce your Sentence, that you be carryed from hence to the place where all Lyers and Murtherers have their portion. And so farewel.

And now ye Petropolitans behold,
You that on Earth *for* Empire *act and* Gold,

What your Rewards *will be,*
On Earth *the* Fatal Tree,
Hereafter, horrour, pain, *and* misery.

CHAP. VIII.

The Author *leaves* Strombolo. *The Designs of the* Petropolitans *to cast the* Plot *upon the* Dissenters. *The Author in the disguise of a* Petropolitan *scouting abroad, meets with* Phileroy, *is like (by mistake) to be betrayed by him.* Phileroy *taking him to his Lodging, gives him an account of several Plots laid against him, and the success of them.* Phileroy *relates the Practices of an* Advocate *against Captain* Lobel, *to corrupt his Evidence, who discovers the Design, and brings the* Advocate *to condign punishment for it. The Death of Captain* Lobel, *and his Confirmation then of the truth of his former Evidence. A Narrative of* Daravers *sufferings, and his four years Imprisonment in the Royal* Tower, *released thence by means of the Grand* Senate. *The coming in of* Fitz Janny *a Discoverer. The*

Tryals

Tryals and Temptations he met with from his Relations, *by reason thereof, with some other passages relating to that story.*

THus was the Exeunt of the poor deluded Petropolitan Martyrs, whose Delusions, had they not been wilful, might have been the more easily excused; but, *Si vult populus decipi, decipiatur.* They made pitiful rueful faces at their carrying off, and Vanga nodding his head at the Old Fox, the Grand Vicar told him, that as they had been his friends upon Earth, he hoped this would be no long parting, but that they should shortly have his company with them; to which his Vicarship replyed, That he did not desire it, and so they parted indeed for this time, but for how long I know not. I perceived the Vicar was strangely moved at the affronts Rhadamanthus gave him, and that his pretended Power and Authority should be so much contemned by him in the presence of his Vassals; but not knowing which way to help himself, he was forced to endure it. The Court staid some considerable time after, expecting others to be brought in; but none appearing, Rhadamanthus calling his Offi-

cers

cers to attend him, adjourned the Court, and drew off, giving the Great Bishop, as he passed by him, a slight Salute, telling him, that he hoped he would shortly come and give his friends a Visit in his Territories, to which the other made no answer; but wishing his Devilship good night, drew off also with his company, and departed: Whereupon my Visions in this place being likewise finished, my Airy Genius, which was always so much a friend to me in these Discoveries, as to transport me when, and whither I pleased, did in the tenth part of a moment (according to the flight of Spirits) bring me safe again to my own habitation at Londinopolis, where, methoughts, conversing about the Town at the Exchange Coffee-houses, and other places of Intelligence, out of Curiosity to hear how matters had passed in my absence concerning the present Plot, I found by all reports, besides Printed Papers, that my last Discoveries at Stromboli were real matters of Fact, and true in all their Circumstances.

But for my better Information, till such time as I could meet with my old friend Philerop, who was my best Oracle in this

this affair, I fancied a Deſign to walk ſometimes in the dusk of the Evening *incognito*, under the diſguiſe of a Petropolitan, with a Roſary of Beads and Crucifix at my Girdle (the ſame that Philerop had beſtowed upon me at Stromboli) to ſuch places as I knew the Petropolitans uſed to meet at, where, under this diſguiſe, I got free admittance into their companies, and underſtood their Deſigns; which notwithſtanding the late Diſcovery and Execution of the aforeſaid Traytors, I perceived they ſtill carryed on as vigorouſly as ever, only they were fain now to alter their Scenes, and to act in Maſquerade (hiding their Cloven Feet) and pretending themſelves to be Albonian Chriſtians; when if their Deſigns ſhould chance to be diſcovered, they were to charge it upon the Diſſenters, it being now their chief Endeavour by Libelling in Print, by the means of ſome Booklellers Fitz-Tom. Ekoot, and others (whom they had procured to ſerve them) to take off the Plot (which was now ſo much noiſed through the World) from themſelves, and to charge it upon the Diſſenters, as their ſole and proper Deſign and Practice.

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One Night, as I was in my Fancy walking towards one of their haunts with my Beads and Crucifix dangling about me, as I uſed to appear at ſuch times, methoughts I met my old Friend Philerop, attended with his Royal Guard about him, who, I ſuppoſe, was at his old Trade of Prieſt-hunting, ſo that I was unwilling at this time to be taken notice of by him, and therefore would have avoided him by croſſing the way; but he (by that little light that appeared) perceiving the Trinkets at my Girdle, bobbing out at the waving of my upper Coat, preſently took me for a Petropolitan, and thereupon ſtopped my farther motion, by laying hold on my Arm, and ſaying, Sir, you are my Priſoner. I was troubled at the Surpriſe, not that I feared Philerop, but becauſe of his Company, that upon theſe words began to draw about me, and whoſe preſence, had I been really ſuch a one as I was taken for, I ſhould have feared more than all the Devils in Stromboio.

But Philerop was as much ſurpriſed as I; when looking nearer in my face, he perceived who I was; wherefore upon the ſudden, to make the beſt of the matter;

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he gave me an Embrace, putting one hand under my Coat, with which he privately ſnatched off my Petropolitan baubles and put them in my Pocket; and then turning him to his Guard, he told them I was indeed, and muſt be his Priſoner for that night, but neither for Felony nor Treaſon, but upon the account of Friendſhip, I being an old Friend of his and a good Chriſtian; to which they replied, God bleſs me; that if I was a Friend of his, they were ſure I was no Enemy to the King or State, and had no more to ſay to me.

Philerop had finiſhed his Expeditions for this day, and was now returning to his Lodgings in the Royal Pallace, where for that night he would needs have me to bear him company, which I did pretty willingly aſſent to, that I might after a long abſence recruit my ſelf from him, of ſome farther particulars relating to the preſent Plot.

As we walked along, Philerop whiſpering me in the Ear, asked me for what purpoſe I wore my Roſarie ſo openly, and whether I was in Jeſt or Earneſt. I told him I was no Heraclitus, neither in Jeſt nor Earneſt, but betwixt both, of which I would

would acquaint him farther at a more convenient opportunity.

Being arrived with him at his Lodgings in the Pallace, and his Guards dismissed, he and I sate down seriously over a Bottle of Wine that he had ready, to discourse of the passages that had happened in this now overgrown Plot since our last meeting: And first at his request I gave him an Account of my late dreaming Voyage into Strombolo, and the passages I observed there in the Tryals, before Rhadamanthus, of the Alboni-an Traytors, that I understood by them were here lately executed; as also the accounts they gave in of the particular facts for which they suffered, asking Philerop, he being (I perceived by them) the principal Witness that was used against them, whether their Informations were true as to the principal heads they delivered of the causes of their sufferings; and he informed me they were; but wondring withal what kind of Enthusiastick Spirit or Genius I was possessed with, that should inform me so truly of things in Vision, which were really acted, and the present Subject of all mens discourses.

I was, said Philerop, (raised by providence

dence to this grateful, though hazardous office) the principal Witneſs made uſe of againſt them, which hitherto I have managed with that ſucceſs as has cleared the Truth, confounded their Deſigns, and brought them to exemplary puniſhment.

Yet have I not managed this Province without apparent dangers and difficulties, by means of the revengeful Petropolitans Deſigns againſt me, interweaving their grand Plot againſt the State with others againſt me, (as their moſt offenſive Enemy) to invalidate my credit, by raiſing ſuch malicious Slanders upon me, as ſhould render me a perſon not fit to be believed or truſted.

To this End they had tampered with a Prieſt, being then a Priſoner in one of our Town Gaols, and acquainted with the Petropolitan Lords, to endeavour to corrupt (with promiſes of large Summs of Mony) ſome particular perſons, named by them, to ſwear againſt me and Capt. Lobed, ſuch things as ſhould be dictated to them, which were in effect to oppoſe our Evidence, to ſcandalize us with odious Crimes, and to charge the Plot on the diſſenting Chriſtians, as if they were the principal Authors and Contrivers of

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it. The Name of this Priest was Vile-Netter a Boglander, who was influenced and directed in this project by another of the Fraternity, who lay committed in the same Gaol by a strange Name that he had assumed for his Concealment; but was indeed Dominico, one that has been since discovered to have had an hand in the Murther of Sir Edmond.

The Persons they would have corrupted were two Gentlemen of good Repute, the one an Alderman, and the other a Captain in Bogland, who having some former acquaintance with this Vile-netter, when living there, and hearing now since their being here, of his Imprisonment, went sometimes out of civility to see him; to whom the crafty Priest, imagining their occasions for Money, by reason of their Expence about their business, might make them greedy of the bait, did at times break his mind of the business to them severally and apart, that one might not know of the others being concerned, under promises of great Sums of Money, if they did effectually proceed in the Design.

The Capt. (an honest Gentleman and a Christian) abhorred the Design, and scorned

ed their Rewards; yet that he might get a farther Insight into their Designs, he seemed to adhere, and proceeded so far, that he learned from whose hands he was to receive his Reward, and a promise of a Paper to be drawn up, containing the particulars of the things he was to swear to, saying, [That if they could but turn off this Plot, there was no fear of effecting their business.]

The honest Capt. from time to time made his Discoveries of these Passages to one of the Royal Secretaries, yet holding in still with them, till he should come to find out the bottom of the Design.

In the mean while we came to get a Discovery of Dominico, by a strange accident; for having wrote a Note to one of the Fraternity to come to him, and got the Alderman to deliver it, he had so far forgot himself, as to leave out his feigned name, and to subscribe his true, and withal to send it open; by which means it became presently known, that he was the person concerned in Sir Edmond's Murther: whereupon Capt. Tubed and I, taking with us a worthy Magistrate that succeeded Sir Edmond, as well in place, as Loyal and Hearty Endeavours in prose-

cuting

cuting the Plotters, went to the Priſon to take an Examination of the buſineſs. But the crafty old Fox Dominico finding himſelf likely to be nooſed, had gnawed the Snare in two that held him, and got looſe: For having procured two fellows for 10 s. a piece to become bail for him, he thereby having got himſelf at large, took his Flight, and is not ſince to be heard of.

The Information of theſe paſſages upon promiſe of Pardon, we got from Vile-Petter, but hereby it happened, we prevented a farther Diſcovery, which the Boglandian Captain would have made in the buſineſs; but Vile-Petter ſuſpecting that he had diſcovered the Deſign to us, would now treat with him no farther.

Another Deſign yet more deviliſh than this hath been ſince laid againſt me, by the means of one Knorius, a Retainer to the Grand Caſhier, who, at the inſtigation of the ſaid Caſhier, and other Petropolitan Lords, on purpoſe to hinder my Evidence againſt them, had corrupted two perſons that had been my ſervants, Bozmos and Clan, by feigned Letters and Papers contrived to their hands, to deſame me in the moſt horrid manner ima-

imaginable, charging me with vile words, that I ſhould uſe againſt the King himſelf, and ſeveral of his Nobility; as alſo that I ſhould contrive with Capt. Lobed upon a way of ſwearing falſly againſt the Grand Caſheir; and to compleat their malice, that I ſhould attempt to commit (that not to be named ſin) ſin of *Sodomy*, with one of the Villains, who was ſo far Reprobate in his wickedneſs, as to ſwear it againſt me before a Magiſtrate. Theſe were the batteries laid againſt me, yet I thank God my own Innocence was a ſufficient Bronce to me againſt them all.

——Murus hic aheneus Eſto,
Nil conſcire ſibi——Horat.
——The beſt Defence
'Gainſt Slander, is a man's own Innocence.

This Deſign I was well aſſured, was incouraged by the Grand Caſheir himſelf, who upon the hopes of its ſucceeding, after having ſome time abſconded himſelf, did now venture to ſurrender himſelf up to the hands of the Senate; and the ſame day this Servant Knortus made his Inſtruments again to ſwear to ſtand to their Information.

Having now fully underſtood their Contrivance

trivance againſt me, I made my Complaint thereof to the Royal Council, who ſending for the Conſpirators, and taking their Informations; Bozmos and Elan freely confeſſed that they had been ſuborned by Knoxius, who in the Grand Caſhier's Name, promiſed them great Rewards to ſwear againſt me and Captain Tobed, dropping a Guinney to them in Earneſt, and maintaining them with Meat, Drink, and Lodging for their Service; that to oblige them the more, he had given them the Oaths of Secrecy, and ſwore they ſhould be killed if they offered to diſcover. But now they freely confeſſed the falſity of thoſe things they were to ſwear againſt me, and gave ſufficient proof of my Innocency, and how I had carried my ſelf while they were my Servants.

Yet they being for ſome time retained in Priſon upon this matter, were afterwards tampered with again by ſome new Agents of the Petropolitan Lords to revive their Evidence upon review and alterations made in the former Papers; to oblige them to which curſed Apoſtaſie, they firſt made means to diſcharge them of their Impriſonment, and then taking them into their own keepings, entertainments

ments and Rewards so far prevailed, as to repeat their former Designs against me; which having tinker'd over their faces with a new Stock of Brass, they (notwithstanding their former Confessions to the contrary) did now proceed to do, and did exhibite a Bill of Sodomy against me to the Grand Jury; but they being sensible of their Designs against me, and withal perceiving the slightness of their Evidence, and the infamy of the Witnesses themselves, refused to admit their Indictment, but threw it out with Detestation of such an horrid practice.

They having thus foiled themselves in their Undertaking, I thought it time as well for the better clearing of my own Innocency, as to punish such unheard of Villanies, to proceed against the Authors of them by due course of Law; wherefore having brought in a Bill of Conspiracy against Knottus and Glan, (Bonos being fled) I had a Trial in the Supream Court of Justice, called the King's Court, where, in the presence of many Noble Peers, and persons of honour, that were desirous to hear my Tryal, I cleared my own Innocency, and by full proofs detected their practices to

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their Shame and Confusion, who were afterwards punished according to their Deserts.

As God had hitherto raised Witnesses (many besides my self) by their several Discoveries to detect the Policies and Designs of these cursed Plotters, so the Devil hath (as a Countermine) raised not a few persons of corrupt and villanous principles, by various & subtle waies of management, to endeavour the baffling of our Evidence, and to render it ineffectual, either by slandering us with such horrid Crimes as should take away the Credit both of our Persons and Testimony (as they did to me in the case before-mentioned) or else by Bribes and Promises of Rewards to endeavour to corrupt them, as in the case I shall now tell you concerning my worthy friend Captain Lobed, whose Evidence (having himself been so long acquainted with their practices) they feared (next to mine) above any mans living: And therefore as it related to some Petropolitan Lords, and others, whose Preservation they more particularly esteemed, they endeavoured to cause him either to abate the rigour of it against such Persons

ſons, or to ſay nothing to the purpoſe, when he ſhould be called as a Witneſs againſt them.

The Inſtrument they imployed in this Affair was an Advocate at Law, a great Friend to their Party, and one that did buſineſs for many of them, and amongſt the reſt, ſome of the Petropolitan Lords; on whoſe behalf, and by them, he was engaged thus to tamper with Captain Lobed, with free expreſſions of encouragement for the preſent, and large promiſes of future Rewards, if he ſhould herein effectually ſerve them.

Lobed intending to out-craft them, if poſſible, did ſeem for ſome time to comply with the Advocate in the deſign; and as a proof of his compliance, did omit ſome things in his Evidence againſt Blancpain and Wickſten at their Trials, thinking ſuch an omiſſion not to be of ſo great conſequence, as the loſs of an opportunity in making a further Diſcovery of this Deſign would be: upon which account having ſetled a belief of his fidelity in the Advocate, he was now the more preſſed to the like faithfulneſs to them in the greater Service. And for his encouragement, beſides ſeveral ſums of money

which the said Advocate paid him beforehand, he promised at such a time to come to Captain Lobeds Lodgings, and bring with him the final Answer of the Petropolitan Lords what rewards they would give him for his Service. But Lobed, cautiously to prevent any Traps that might be laid for him, did before the time, acquaint some of the Albonian Nobles, (viz.) the Noble Prince of the Rhine, and other Christian Lords, of the Design on foot, and procured a Friend of his (at the time appointed) to plant himself behind the Hangings, and making a hollow place in his Bed, laid his Man there covered over smooth with a Rug, that they might over-hear what passed, and not be descried. At the hour appointed the Advocate came, and acquainted him in the hearing of the aforesaid Witnesses, that the Petropolitan Lords had ordered him to draw Blanck Deeds, both for sums of Money and Estates, which they would settle on him, and that one of them was felling Timber to raise money for him.

So

So sweet *is* Life, *so* impudent *is* Vice,
That to preserve their Breath *ther's no* (*device*
So base but they'l attempt it; and they'l Fee
Their whole Estates *to set their Persons* (*Free.*

A little after this; the said **Advocate** and **Captain Lobed**, drew up in a Paper the substance of what matters the **Captain** had to charge against the **Petropolitan Lords**, which being carried to them, for their perusal, and after they had pulled out all the stings of it, that might hurt them, and made it as harmless as they could for their purpose; returned it back again so much as was left undefaced in his own hand writing.

The business being now ripe for a Discovery **Captain Lobed** acquaints the **Secret Committee** appointed by the **Grand Senate** to examine such matters, with the Proceedings of it: who finding it a matter of great weight and consequence, acquaint the whole **Senate**, therewith leaving it to their **Wisdoms** to consider what farther should be done about it.

The **Senate** by their Address, ac-

quaint the King with the busineſs, and pray his Commiſſion to call a Court of Juſtice for the Trial of the Advocate; which the King graciouſly grants. And at his Trial the aforeſaid practices were fully proved againſt him by Captain Lobed, and thoſe other ambuſcade Witneſſes that I before mentioned. Upon conviction of which, the Judge ſharply reflecting upon him as an Advocate to diſhonour his Profeſſion with ſuch baſe and illegal practices, did for his puniſhment award this Sentence [(*viz.*) That he ſhould be Fined 1000 l. be impriſoned for one Year, and ſtand one hour in the Pillory in the Yard of the Palace before the High-Courts of Juſtice] which laſt part of the Sentence was preſently after executed upon him in the preſence of thouſands of People, who were not any of them ſo commiſerate of his Sufferings, as to pity him, but on the contrary, were ſo enraged, that had it not been for a ſtrong Guard placed about him to keep them off, he had certainly periſhed by their fury.

——*No* better *fare all thoſe*
That once declare themſelves the Peoples (Foes
The Law *keeps Bounds, but the* unboun- (ded Crue,
Think what they can *inflict on ſuch is due.*

The latter part of his Sentence, as to Fine and Impriſonment, after he had continued ſome little time in durance, was by I know not what ſiniſter means remitted, and he freed.

Here I may not omit to acquaint you with another Deſign of theirs againſt Captain Lobed, acted by the Grand Caſhier himſelf, with whom the Captain having ſome buſineſs about getting in of moneys which he was to receive out of his Office; the Caſhier knowing who he was, began to ſift or rather to trappan him with queſtions, as, Whether he was not hired by ſome Chriſtian Lords to give evidence againſt the Petropolitans? Which he denying, as well he might, the other then began to trie him another way, by promiſes of great Preferments and Rewards, to corrupt him to fail in his Evidence. But this neither being taken,

at last he proceeds (the Devils usual method) to Menaces; threatning, That if he would not serve them at home, a Vessel was ready, which should transport him far enough from doing any service against them. The effect of this threatning Captain Lobed soon after found (though not *in specie*) the Grand Cashier maliciously misrepresenting him to the King, so that the Guards that were allowed him for his Protection, were now set over him as Spies: of which discouragement Lobed gave an account to the King, who graciously took the same into consideration, and ordered a remedy.

Many good Services (said Philerop) notwithstanding all these discouragements, did this worthy Captain Lobed perform in the discovery of this Plot, and would have done more, had not Death prevented him, by cutting him off in the midst of his days and of our hopes, in the West parts of Albonia, a thing which the Petropolitans at first rejoiced at, but with little reason, as afterwards appeared, when they understood, that by his dying attestations (of a thousand times more credit than any of their treasonable Martyrs) he did before an eminent Judge

of

of Albonia and one of the Royal Council, upon Oath assert the truth of all that ever he deposed against the Petropolitans, in relation to the present Plot: and at the same time his loyal Spirits (then expiring) were passionately affected with the resentments he had of the danger he should leave the King in, by the means of this cursed Conspiracy; with hearty Prayers to God to protect him against it.

But to proceed with my Narrative; There was one other of the Witnesses or Discoverers, that came not off so happily with them as I and Captain Lobb did; one Darever a Gentleman, by Birth a Scoto-britain, who being in Franconia at the time when our Noble Cambrian Duke (the Flower of Chivalry at this day) commanded the Albonian Forces that were sent over to assist that King in his Wars. The said Darever was imployed as Agent for the Albonian Militia at the Franconian Court: and at the same time getting an acquaintance with an Albonian Lady, a zealous Votary of the Petropolitan Religion, she acquainted him with the present designs of introducing Petropo-

litanism into Albonia, and of making the great Albonian Duke King of that Country, upon taking off our present Sovereign, whom God preserve. And hereupon engaged him by his Interest to introduce one Peter, titular Arch Bishop of Li dub in Bogland, to the Franconian King, which he did; Peter presenting him with a Letter and other Papers, had private conference with him, for half an hour. The substance of which, Peter afterwards told him, was to propose ways to the Franconian Prince to relieve the persecuted (as he called them) Petropolitans in Albonia, but more especially in Bogland, by undertaking their Protection, furnishing them with Arms, and securing one of their principal Ports for his own use.

Darever being now acquainted with their treasonable Designs, to which before he was a Stranger, discovered the same to an Albonian Knight then at the Court, for his assistance to communicate it to the King of Albonia; but he revealing the matter to a Brother of the titular Bishops, a Petropolitan, and Colonel in the Army, and of Dareverg intention to discover it at his return to

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Albonia; the Colonel and his Party hereupon threatned him, that if he ever attempted such a thing, he should be certainly committed to the Great Tower at Londinopolis, or some other Prison, by their Procurement.

Notwithstanding the Loyal Gentleman (though with much difficulty) escaping their revengeful hands, got safe into Albonia, where he intended to acquaint the Cambrian Duke, who is esteemed a great Enemy to the Petropolitans, and was now likewise returned from Franconia with this Design, but before he could get an opportunity to speak with him, the Petropolitans had made their interest at Court against him: whereupon being had up before one of the Royal Secretaries, he was without any Examination, or proof of any crime against him, sent to the Great Tower, where after some Moneths stay, he was examined by the Lieutenant of that place, to whom he discovered what he intended to have said to the Cambrian Duke concerning this Design. But this was so little satisfactory to the Lieutenant (how prepossest, or how much a Friend to the Petropolitans, I know not) that he charged

Darrel, himself with a Design against the said Duke, and threatned to torture him if he did not confess it. This was, and is one Artifice of the Petropolitans, by their powerful interests to gain so firm a possession of credit in persons, perhaps (otherwise unbyassed) as the defence of an Innocent person, whose Interest shall not bear weight with theirs, shall not be able to remove it.

Most mighty Slander (*one said well*),
What is it thou canst not do!
Canst change the place of Heaven *for* Hell,
And make a Friend *a* Foe:
A Foe *to* Treason *make a* Malefactor,
And the Discoverer *himself the* Actor.

Under this suspicion yet unproved, of an Enemy to the State, and the same suspition kept warm by the interest of his malicious Adversaries, this poor Gentleman was continued a Prisoner in a dark and uncouth Dungeon within the Tower (a place assigned onely for the worst of Malefactors) for the space of four years; in which time (as it is Romanced of St. George in his seven years Imprisonment in the Persian Court) he be-

became so savage in his looks, overgrown with hair; and mean in apparel, that they that were acquainted with him before, could now hardly know him.

But from these miseries, he was at last released by the happy Convention of the **Albonian Senate**. The two **Grand Estates** thereof, being both informed of their Proceedings against him, and his Sufferings, did take upon them the Examination of the business, and being sufficiently made sensible of his innocency, and the wrongs done him, did obtain of his Majesty a discharge for him: and he hath since his releasement, been very instrumental in making farther **Discoveries** of this present **Plot**.

One more instance I shall give you (said **Philerop**) of another Witness, whom God raised to confirm the truth of this **Plot**, one **Fitz-Jenny** a **Gentleman** of good Extract and Quality; but himself and Family all **Petropolitans**. And though the Principles of that Religion, in which he had been educated from his Childhood, did ingage him to the Interest of that Party, yet he had so much reason and judgment yet left untainted in him, as to see into the horrid wickedness of their Practi-

ces,

cer, and so designed to leave them, and make a Discovery.

But this was not to be done without the difficulty of losing his Relations, who, as I said, were all Petropolitans, (besides what advantages, as to his Estate, he might expect by them) Bogland, one of the two Priests that were lately executed for conspiring against the Life of the King, was his near Kinsman, and his Elder Brother, a person deeply concerned in the present Plot, for which he was after put into the Den of Thieves, about the time that this Fitz-Jenny was about to make his Discovery. Whereupon the Petropolitans grounded this malicious report of him, that he had betrayed, and would prosecute his Brother meerly to get the Inheritance of the Estate from him, by incapacitating him to enjoy it. But the Vanity of this Slander he easily made out, by his generous declining all such selfish advantages, in that he would not deliver in his Informations, till such time as he got a promise, from the Lords of the Royal Council to obtain the Kings Pardon for his said Brother.

His Kinsman Bogland did, both at his Trial

Trial and at his Death, like (a true Petropolitan) deny a neceſſary circumſtance in the Evidence againſt him, which was material to his Conviction, as namely that he was at Londinopolis upon ſuch a day acting in the Deſign, when at the ſame time he affirmed with ſolemn Proteſtations that he was remote off in the Country. This Circumſtance for a time, the Petropolitans did much glory in. But this his kinſman Fitz-Jenny knowing the truth of the matter, being called upon to atteſt the ſame at the Trial of ſome other Prieſts afterwards, did honeſtly declare that he was with the ſaid Bogland at the ſame time mentioned in the Evidence, at Londinopolis, by which means the truth of that particular was cleared, and the Petropolitans defeated of their deſign.

Thus ſee (*you* Cheats) *what* truth *the*
(dying words
Of your pretended Martyrs *now affords*,
What credit's *to ſuch* dying ſayings *due*,
That live *and* act *ſo* wickedly *as you*.

This was the firſt proof of the integrity of this worthy Confeſſor, after which he pro-

proceeded to discover several other of their Practices, both at home and abroad, as namely, that being at Petropolis, he heard the Ignatians affirm, as a Canon of their Religion, that the Grand Vicear had Power to depose Kings; and that Princes being by him once excommunicate (which in their sense is not only to Un-christian them, but to Un-king them) it is not only a thing lawful, but meritorious for their Subjects to kill them.

And by the way (said Philerop) this Doctrine of theirs (known to be allowed and approved by them in their most authentique writings) may serve to un-riddle that mysterious *Salvo*, so formally used by them in their dying Speeches, and by which the over-credulous Vulgar are so easily amused into a persuasion of their Innocency *viz.* [That they are Innocent of any Design or Endeavour to kill the King.] For according to this Doctrine, and in their Petropolitan sense, Our King is no King, being deprived both of Name and Office by the Judgment of the Chair.

But to return to our matter; this worthy Fitz-Jenny being more true to his Coun-

Country and Conscience, than regardful of his dearest Interests hath spared neither Friend nor Foe in these his Discoveries: A Narrative of which he hath since published to the World, and therein informed us, how his kinsman Bogland offered to forgive him a Debt of 20*l.* if he would be assisting to them in taking off the King; which he absolutely refusing, the other then pressed him to acquaint him (if he knew of any) with some Boglanders, Petropolitans, that were fit for that (devilish) purpose; Fitz-Jemmy then named three to him, besides one Fitz-Will an Albonian, who were the four Ruffians (first approved by Bogland) that were after imployed to kill the King at his Pallace in the Country; the names of whom particularly he mentioned in his Discovery, upon which the Royal Proclamation was afterwards issued out for their seizing.

It was no small temptation to this worthy Confessor, that during this while he was continually attacqued by the most passionate and importunate Letters of his neareſt Relations, urging him as a Rebel to his own Blood, with the necessity of bringing a certain ruine upon his whole

whole family, if he went on in his proceedings; but these powerful Suada's had so little Influence upon the Constancy of his mind, and prevailed no more to reduce him to his former (but now abandoned) Principles, (the thing they principally aimed) than that they produced the quite contrary effects, both to confirm him in his Resolutions; and the Consideration thereof, together with the Conviction of the (now clearly detected) Villany of that Party whose profession he had owned, did so far prevail with his aged Father, that (abjuring his own) he became a Proselyte to the Christian Religion; and farther, to make the Triumphs of his Testimony and the truth more illustrious, he gained another Convert out of his Fathers Family, a Secular Priest, and Retainer to it in that Office, who, by this means, was taken from performing Idolatrous Worship in a private Family, to the service of (more than one Tribe in Israel) his King and Country.

This Person, by name Smithus, since his Conversion, hath gratified the World (as an Evidence of his sincerity) with some excellent Treatises of his own penning, evincing the inconsistency of Petropolitan

tan Principles, with the Peace and Security of States and Kingdoms; a thing, said Phileroy, which if Christian Princes were sufficiently sensible of, they would no more suffer any of that viperous brood to harbour within their Dominions, than they would known Traitors and Murtherers to dwell within their Pallaces: Besides, having in those Treatises exposed their Villanies in this present Design, (according to those Principles) he hath justified the Honour and Justice of the Albonian Tribunals, in their procedures against the Plotters, and also vindicated the Testimony of Fitz-Jenny, particularly by manifest Demonstration of passages relating to it, whereof he himself had been an ocular Witness.

And now you Petropolitans *dare you vie*
The Glories of a curst Obstinacy,
In dying Traitors to the Constancy
Of this brave Man, *that for his Countries* (good
Trampl'd on all the Ties of Flesh and Blood,
And brav'd your Malice with a well fixt (Zeal,
What you durst act, *he* dared *to* reveal;

And

And whiles your *traiterous Breaths with lyes* (*expire,*
His Breasts *inflamed with the sacred Fire*
Of Truth, such Truths *as the Preservatives*
Of our Religion, Properties *and* Lives
Against your Treasons, *in the* Rolls *of* Fame
Shall be recorded to your *lasting* Shame;
And Spight *of all your damned* Treachery
Justice *and* Truth *shall gain the* Victory.

And thus, said **Philero**, (having ended his poetical Rapture) I have given you, my dear **Philopatris**, a **summary Account** of those Witnesses, that it pleased God, in his gracious Providence, to raise for the farther Discovery, and better Confirmation of this cursed **Plot**, and next to the **Divine Favour** that honoured me so far, as to make me the first **Discoverer** of it. I am obliged to that goodness of **God**, that has raised so many to bear their Testimony with me, that I have no reason to complain with **Elijah**, **That I only am left**: God has yet reserved many and many ways for the carrying on of this **great work** of his **Providence**, to the Confusion (as we hope) of his and his **Churches** Enemies; although you may perceive by these last Narra-

Narratives, that they have not been wanting, by all the treacherous ways they could think of, both to defeat our Evidence, and to ruine our perſons, if it lay in their Power; ſo that one Witneſs ſhould be too many to ſurvive amongſt us, if they could help it.

CHAP. IX.

St. Omers Lads *ſent for over; their impudent Practices to defeat the Evidence of* Phileroy, *but to no purpoſe.* Dagdule *comes in a Witneſs againſt the* Plotters; *their practices to* ſuborn *him defeated. An account of the* Tryal *of the* Phyſitian *that was to poiſon the* King; *his unexpected acquittal upon it. An Account of their Deſigns of* firing *the* Towns *and* Cities *in* Albonia; *what Progreſs they made, and the Diſcovery of their* Deſigns. *A Relation of the Proceedings* (*in the* Grand Senate) *againſt the* Petropolitan Lords; *and the Trial, Condemnation and Execution of the Lord* Fordſtaff. *The* Author *in a Viſion diſcovers the* Meal-tub-Plot;

Plot; *meets them with* Ovi-pellupus *a* Sham-plotter, *who at a retirement, acquaints him with the Design of that* Intrigue, *and the Discovery of it by* Camperil *a* Renegade Discoverer. Camperil, *engaged by the* Petropolitan *Lords, in several Services relating to the Plot. An account of his* Treaty *with* Gad *the Astrologer about it.*

YEt now it comes into my mind, I will, (before I leave this Subject) acquaint you with another help they had at a **dead lift**, to assist them in baffling our Evidence. You know we heard when we were at **Stromboio**, that **St. Omers** in **Franconia** was assigned them as the chief place of Rendezvous: and also for a Colledge or Nursery for training up their young **Frie**, and **instructing** them in the **sacred mysteries** of **King-killing** and destruction of States and Kingdoms.

Here a Party of them have kept their **Consults**, and hence as occasion hath required, they have from time to time sent over Supplies to their **Correspondents** in **Albonia**, in which Negotiations I and Captain **Lobed** have several times been sent over thither, while we were of their Party,

Party, and there the Younkers got ſome acquaintance with us, which their Friends here have made an opportunity now of a Deſign againſt us. For the Old Foxes having had ſo bad Succeſs in following their Game that they were continually taken in our Toils, and defeated of their prey. Not knowing which way better to help themſelves, they ſent over to St. Omers for a Litter of thoſe Cubs, that by this time had been ſo well inſtructed in the Game, that they could follow the ſcent of Bloud, and imitate the Old Reynards in their wily ways of Lying and Equivocation pretty dextrouſly. No ſooner was this Litter come over, but their Game was ſhewed them, I it was that they were to worry. Indeed I had got ſome of the Old Foxes in a Noole (Blancpain and the reſt of his Gang, being now upon their Trial) and theſe young Cubs were to gnaw aſunder the Cord (if they could) to unſnare them, that is, to thwart and contradict my Evidence. I had ſworn that I was preſent in the Moneth of April at a Conſult in Londinopolis; their Leſſon was, that I was then, and ſome Moneths after with them at St. Omers; yet they had not

ſo

ſo well conned their Leſſon, but when came to ſay it, they faltred pitifully.

And though they opened wide and yelped amain, yet all was little to the purpoſe; for it was perceived, that while they built the Babel of a mighty confidence upon theſe Younkers undertaking, they had ſent amongſt them the Confuſion of Tongues, ſo that Hammer and Mozter were there as relative to one purpoſe, as their Evidences one to another: For ſome of them would make me to leave St. Omers in May, others would have me not to leave it till June, but one Gentleman, whoſe tongue had got the ſtart of his wit, retched it as far as July, which the Court taking notice of, told him that his Evidence was wide of all the reſt, who agreed upon either the latter end of May, or the beginning of June. But to help the matter, he told them, if he failed in any thing as to the punctuality of the time, yet he was ſure I ſtaid at St. Omers till the Conſult was over. This was the Mark they aimed at, (ſhoot high or low) to prove that I was not at the Conſult at the time I alledged, and ſo could not be a Witneſs of what paſſed there. But this

con-

confident Lad, though he and the reſt had miſtook their Proofs, yet he remembred the Text, to prove that I was not at the Conſult, for he was ſure, (right or wrong, when or when not) that I ſtaid at St. Omers, till the ſame was over. The obſervation of this paſſage cauſed ſome laughter in the Court, but more ſatisfaction to them; when after theſe Whelps had done mouthing their idle tales and falſhoods) I brought in ſix or ſeven credible Witneſſes to make good my own Allegation, that I was all the Moneth of April here in Town. This, as it was full ſatisfaction to the Judge and Jury, ſo it proved ſuch a defeat to the Bounkers, that upon the diſcouragement thereof, they have not ſince appeared ſo publickly to confront Evidence.

Yet ſtill privately they endeavour (if poſſible) to corrupt them, as lately one Dugdale a Witneſs lately come in againſt them, having publiſhed his Informations of their Practices, they procured a man and a woman with proffers of great and certain Rewards, to tempt him to retract what he had ſaid or written; and had drawn up a Paper ready for him to ſign to, to that purpoſe. But though out of a

deſign

deſign to trie how far they would proceed with him, he kept them for ſome time in ſuſpenſe about it; yet in that time having acquainted ſome Magiſtrates with it, he (by Virtue of their Warrant) took a convenient opportunity to ſeize them, and hath laid them both in Priſon till ſuch time as they ſhall be called to their Trial to anſwer for their Subornation. This hath been the ſucceſs (and no better) that they have hitherto met with in tampering with our Witneſſes, and this hath made the Wheels of their Motion to go on ſo heavily hitherto. And may they never move ſwiftlier till they be overwhelmed with the torrents of a deſerved Vengeance.

Phileroy having given me theſe accounts of the Witneſſes, which were very pleaſing and ſatisfactory to me, I deſired him (having firſt drank a Glaſs of Wine to recruit his Spirits) to inform me of ſome other matters relating to the Plot, as they ſhould come into his mind, for that all late paſſages were News to me, being come over ſo lately from Stromboli. Phileroy told me, that in a Deſign ſo confuſed, and that tended to nothing but confuſion, as this did, it was im-

impoſſible for him to obſerve any order or method, in his Diſcourſes. And therefore he would rather I would hint to him what matters I would deſire to be reſolved of, and he would give me the beſt ſatisfaction he could about them.

I thanked him for the kindneſs, and the firſt thing I deſired him to ſatisfie me in, was about the **Devils Drugſter**, the **Phyſitian** that was imployed to poiſon the **King**, whether ſince his impriſonment he had been brought to his Trial. **Philerop** informed me, that he had; together with two **Benedictine Monks** and a **Lay-Brother** of that Order, who were all tried before the **Supreme Juſtice** of the **Kings Court**. But (ſaid **Philerop**) although I then ſufficiently proved what I told you I had formerly charged him with before the **Royal Council**, of his being hired to **kill** the **King** by a Letter which I proved to be of his own hand-writing, by a Note entered in their **Regiſtry**, under the pretended **Rector** of **Londinopolis Courthar's** own hand, of his acceptance of 15000 l. for that Service. And although it was farther proved by **Captain Lobed** that the ſaid **Courthar** at one time gave

him a Bill for the receipt of 2000 l. in part of payment; and at the ſame time that the Phyſician ſhould declare that the buſineſs muſt be cloſely followed, and that if they ſhould miſs doing of it in one place, they muſt do it in another; yet notwithſtanding all this Evidence, the Twelve Men (who according to the Albonian Laws, are the proper Judges of matters of Fact) brought in a Verdict for him of Not guilty; and did the like by the other four that were tried with him, though it was apparently proved that they were all Abettors of the Plot, and conſented to the giving of 6000 l. for the carrying of it on, to be raiſed out of the Stock of their Society; notwithſtanding which, they alſo were brought in Not guilty; ſo they were all acquitted. It is thought that the Purſe of Gold that the Phyſician received from the Grand Vicar, had ſo ſtrong a Charm in it, as to render him invulnerable againſt any penalties of Law or Juſtice.

Now ſure Aſtræa's *fled unto the ſkies,*
Or ſhe would puniſh ſuch damn'd villanies.

Curs'd

Curs'd *be that* Gold, *and* curs'd *that*
(Sentence *be*,
That brib'd the Judge, and set such Trai-
(*tors free.*

The next thing that I desired to be informed of, was concerning one part of their **Design** which I heard given them in charge at **Stromboli**, of firing our Towns and Habitations. In this **Philerop** told me they were not idle; for that besides that dreadful **Conflagration** that laid this great **City** in ashes in the year 1666. which **Captain Lobed**, who was after in the year 1676. engaged by the **Benedictine Monks** at **Paris** on the like Designs, hath in a Narrative (since published to the World) made out to be begun and carried on by the **Petropolitans**, with a considerable booty of many thousand pounds value, which they got to themselves as **Plunder**, out of the Goods of the distressed Citizens.

They have since carried on the **Design** as **hotly** as before, by firing several other **Towns** and **Corporations** in **Albonia**, and particularly lately a great part of a famous and populous **Burrough** on the South side of **Londinopolis**.

This Design is carried on by a particular Committee, who have ſub-divided themſelves into ſeveral Parties, according to their various managements, to contrive the moſt likely means and places for the carrying on of their work. It is ſaid they have been contrived no leſs then twelve ſeveral diſtinct ways to cauſe and promote theſe Fires; One of which is by bribing Servants to fire the Houſes of their Maſters. The Manager of this part, was one Father Gifford, a Villain that hath been a principal Actor in moſt of the former Conflagrations, who had engaged one Nicholas to play the Devil in his room. This Nicholas, as a proof of his skill, having ſome acquaintance with a Servant-Maid living with a Lawyer in the Weſt parts of this City, inſinuated himſelf by his ſubtle Arguments ſo far with her, as upon promiſe of 5 l. and half a Crown in earneſt, he procured her to ſet fire on her Maſters Papers, which ſet fire on the Houſe; but Watchmen coming by (it being late at night) prevented its ſpreading and ſeized her; when carrying her before a Magiſtrate, ſhe confeſſed the Fact, and who it was that imployed

ployed her. Whereupon Warrants were issued out against the said Nicholas, who was likewise taken, and upon his Examination, vouched over Monsieur le Priest, the aforesaid Giffordus, as the principal imployer; whose Maxim he said it was, That it was no sin to fire all the houses of the Heretichs and Hugonots (meaning the Christians.) Besides this, he being now upon the Stool of Repentance, and willing to have the honour of a Discoverer, did so largely set forth the merits of his Patron Gifford in several other Exploits of the like nature, some already acted, and some onely in design: besides some goodly Treasons of no small size, that the said Gifford went very big with, and waited to be delivered of; that for the sake and service of this Discovery, he obtained his pardon, and the Maid likewise. After which a Proclamation was issued out for the taking of the said Gifford.

Thus we may see how Rome *'gainst us con-*
(spires,
By deeds of darkness *and destructive*
(Fires.

Let them proceed, but at their peril know,
Our Fires *above will kindle* theirs *below.*

I perceived after these long Discourses, that Philetop began to be heavy-eyed, and so (methoughts) for all I was sleeping and dreaming all this while, I was too; but my Fansie did so violently work upon these matters, that I could not rest till I were satisfied in one thing more; which was, how matters stood with the Petropolitan Lords, who I understood by Philetop, were now imprisoned in the Royal Tower. I desired him onely to give me some short accounts of the proceedings against them, and then I would give him no farther trouble at this time. Philetop willing to gratifie my curiosity to the utmost (rubbing his eyes a little) began thus:

I have already, said Philetop, in some of my former Discourses with you about these matters, acquainted you how these five Lords came to be drawn into the Plot, and the nature of their Crimes; which as they are complicated together, would be tedious to recite to you. But for these Crimes being imprisoned in the Royal Tower, they had afterwards an Im-

Impeachment drawn up againſt them by the **Lower Senate**, conſiſting (as you know) of the Commonalty of the whole Kingdom, wherein they were ſeverally charged with **High-Treaſon**, for conſpiring with the **Secretary** and the other **Traitors** (whoſe Facts and Trials have been already mentioned) to ſubvert the **Chriſtian Religion**, and introducing **Petropolitaniſm**, to murther the King, to alienate our Eſtates, to ſeize our Garriſons, to introduce foreign Arms, and to that end receiving **Commiſſions** of Places and Offices by allowing **Contributions** out of their Eſtates to carry on the Deſigns of their **Treaſon**, with ſeveral other particulars, too tedious to enumerate; which **Impeachment**, according to cuſtom, was carried up to the **Senate of Lords**, before whom the matters therein charged were to be tried.

To this **Impeachment**, the ſaid five **Lords** being called upon to give in their Anſwer, made a **Demurr**, (a Phraſe you know uſed in their **Forms** by our **Lawyers** in **Albonia**) which they gave in in Writing; for that the Facts alledged in the Impeachment, were ſo general, and the times and places (wherein they

were mentioned to be done) ſo uncertain, that they could not with ſafety give any direct anſwer to them.

But, by the Votes of the Lower Senate, this Demurr was over-ruled, and they Ordered to plead according to form of Law to the matters of Fact charged againſt them; and then they put in their Pleas ſeverally, the ſubſtance of which in general was only Proteſtations of their Innocency, and ſubmitting the Trial of their Peers.

And now great Expectations were of their being brought to a ſpeedy Trial, and Scaffolds for that purpoſe erected in the midſt of the High Courts of Juſtice. But in the mean time the Grand Caſhier whom the Lower Senate had now likewiſe impeached for Treaſon, but had for ſome time abſconded, did now unexpectedly come in and ſurrendred himſelf, inſiſting upon a Pardon, which he had obtained (although as yet there was no Crime proved againſt him.) But this the Lower Senate Voted illegal; upon which, and upon another point (of the right of the Spiritual Lords to be Judges at thoſe Trials) which they denied, ſuch miſunderſtandings aroſe betwixt

twixt the Lower Senate, and the Senate of Lords, that the King was forced at last to dissolve the Session: After which the Grand Cashier was secured a Prisoner in the Royal Tower, where he and the rest of the Petropolitan Lords, except the Lord Fordstaff, are yet remaining: Although several Senates have been since called, but their Sittings so short, by reason of some unhappy Misunderstanding amongst those Grand Estates about the Proceedings against the Great Duke, occasioning their sudden Dissolution, that they have not had opportunity to proceed upon their Tryals; only the Last Senate that has been since called, saving one, the aforesaid Lord Fordstaff was brought to his Trial before the Senate of Lords, where the Lower Senate as Prosecutors appeared against him, charging him particularly with Design to murther the King, and offering Money to have it done: This horrid Fact was by two Witnesses fully proved against him, whereupon after several days Trial (which the Senate in favour allowed him) he was convicted of High-Treason, and had the Sentence of Traitors passed upon him, but by the

Mercy of the King, that Sentence was mitigated only to the taking off his Head, which Death he hath since suffered upon the Hill adjoining to the Royal Tower, dying like a true Petropolitan, by justifying his Innocency, and denying the Facts charged upon him, which he formally read out of a Paper, supposed upon good grounds to be drawn up for him by some of the party, as the like hath been proved in other cases; some Petropolitans about the Scaffold were observed to dip their handkerchiefs in his Blood, which no doubt was esteemed by them as a precious Relique.

Philetor having thus far obliged me, by giving me in so large an Account of the matters I desired to be satisfied about, I thought I could do no less than gratifie him in that which I perceived Nature and his Weariness required, by suffering him to take a Repose, it being now late at Night, or rather morning, when our Discourse was finished, so we lay down together, at least I fancied so; for no sooner was I laid down, but the Magick of my Fancy (still in continual motion) transported me to a place, where *nolens, volens*, I was forced to stay (being now

a meer

a meer passible subject to my own imagination) and expecting to meet with some adventure, I staid not long before I perceived some Persons, that I knew to be Petropolitans, to enter into an house just over against me, and amongst the rest, one that I had observed at Strombolo to be of the crew of Shamplotters, attired in one of these habits which I observed were there wore by them: This Person coming over with us in the same Ship, had there so much knowledge of me, and I of him, that I resolved at this time to renew acquaintance with him, that I might thereby understand what Designs they were then upon; Whereupon taking my Ticket (that is) my Rosarie and Crucifix out of my pocket, I hung them at my Girdle, that I might appear no other than a Petropolitan. I made up to him, and saluted him with a *Salve mi Frater*: He hereupon looking wistly upon my face, stood still, not knowing whether he had best own his own knowledge of me or no, lest I should prove a Trappan; But my rattling my Beads at my Girdle drew his Eyes off to that place where (and only where) I was a Petropolitan; this served to removed his

Suspi-

Suſpicion, and thereupon without farther ſcruple (telling me he was glad to ſee me) he took me by the hand, and drew me into the House, telling me by the way, that we ſhould now underſtand the Reſults of their Sham-Plot. I durſt not preſume to ask him what Sham he meant, leſt I ſhould appear to be as ignorant as indeed I was, and ſo incur a new ſuſpicion; but told him, I longed my ſelf very much to underſtand the Conſequence of it. So we proceeded and came into a Room where the Managers were; a pretty Company there was of them, all ſitting in a very diſconſolate poſture, and amongſt the reſt a Woman in a Matron-like dreſs, looking with a very rueful Countenance, and often wringing her hands in a paſſionate manner. I heard her often repeat, [Never was ſo hopeful a Birth ſpoiled for want of due Care and Management; ſince the time that I have practiſed Midwifry I never met with the like Miſcarriage.] By this I underſtood ſhe was a Midwife, and one that perhaps might be imployed to obſtetricate in this preſent Plot; The reſt of the Company were mute as Fiſhes, & their cloaths and viſages beſmeared with ſome-

thing

thing white, like Meal or Flower; I concluded this was the Reaſon they were ſo mealy Mouthed: And in the midſt of the company I perceived a Tub of Meal ſtanding, but what the conceit of it ſhould be I knew not, except it were ſome Gift of the Seminaries grain, prepared to ſend over to Petropolis to make Norfolk Dumplings for the Albonian Cardinal; I underſtood nothing of their Deſign by all this, and durſt not ask queſtions for fear of being ſuſpected for a Novice or Intruder: But my old Mate that introduced me, gave me ſome light by the queſtion, that I overheard, put to one of the Company, to whom he applied himſelf, asking him what was become of the Book of the Model of the Plot, and whether there had been any Diſcove- to whom the other replied, yes, and that the whole Deſign was diſcovered by means of that *Apoſtate, Renegade Camperil,* who violating his Truſt, had diſcloſed the whole Deſign to the Londinopolitan Magiſtrates; and for the Books and Papers wherein the Model of the Deſign was contained, and were hid in the Meal-Tub there before them for more ſecurity; the ſame (upon ſome unhappy notice

notice thereof given) had been ſeized by a Magiſtrate, Sir Edmond's Succeſſor, and carried to the Royal Council. By theſe ſhort hints I perceived that their Sham-Plot (of what nature ſoever it were) was defeated.

And that their Meal, *though wrought and* (*kneaded ſo.*
Their Cake *ill baked was, and proved* (dough.

Alack and welladay, this was all the language now amongſt them, though ſome ſate in a ſullen diſcontent, and ſaid nothing; I confeſs I had no inclination to ſympathiſe with them in their Sorrows, but on the contrary had a violent temptation upon me to laugh it out, and my ſpleen was already ſo tickled with the pleaſure of their defeat, that I had certainly done it, if I had not by force changed my looks into another poſture, by making as well as I could, an ugly and whining kind of face as they did.

Dolores ingentes ſtupent, the trouble of this defeat had ſo dampt their Courages, that they ſate together like the Friends at a Quakers ſilent Meeting, looking one

one upon another, as whist as Mice, until their unsociable silence began to make their company wearisom to each other, so that some of them beginning to rise up, the rest did the same; and having made their complements to the Midwife, who I perceived was Mistriss of that house, they then took leave one of another, and departed to their several quarters; only I and my Companion, who called himself Ovipellupus, took a way by our selves. For, methoughts, I was very unwilling to part company with him, till I had got from him some farther Informations of this present Design. As we passed the Streets I perceived a Tavern on the other side of the way, into which I invited my Strombolian to accompany me, that we might drink a condoling cup, and wash away our Sorrows; he easily accepted my offer, and we went in together; it was as I remember at the Myter near to the St. Dunstan, a house much frequented by the Petropolitans; to avoid suspicion, Ovipellupus (as the rest did) had left his Sham-Cloak at the house we came from, and now appeared in querpo like a Gentleman of the Town: I had also put my Bead-baubles into

into my pocket, that I might be as unſuſpected as he; being fixed in a room together, I contrived with my ſelf how I ſhould do to pump him, I perceived he had no miſtruſt of me, that I was other than I pretended, and therefore I was fain to carry my ſelf accordingly, beginning with a very ſolemn groan as he did; but on my part nothing in the Earth could be ever more feigned, telling him how deeply I reſented the miſcarriage of a Deſign that had been ſo carefully managed; Carefully (ſaid Ovipellupus) no, there you are miſtaken, had it been ſo carefully managed as it ought, it had never miſcarried: But a pox upon that Rogue Camperil, had not he plaid the knave with us all had been well; but we may thank our ſelves for admitting ſuch knaves into our Society; (and I wonder) thought I with my ſelf, were all ſuch removed from you, what a mighty Number there would be of you.

I tell thee Brother (ſaid he) we have a Company of Traitors amongſt us, (true ſtill thought I) that lie lurking for opportunities to betray us: I fear ſo too, ſaid I, but we muſt be the more wary for the future whom we truſt; for my part I was al-

ways

ways afraid that this Camperil would prove treacherous. It is proved too true, replied he, and the old proverb is made good in him; that tells you, [Save a Thief from the Gallows, and he will cut your throat if he can.] I will maintain it, we had better have gone to Hell for an Instrument to have served us, than to have robbed the Goal of such a Rogue as he is. It was mighty pleasant to me to hear the Religious Knave speak the truth so ingeniously, out of a Design to rail down the Honesty of a Discoverer.

Before he proceeded farther, he would needs know of me what my Office or Imployment was; I told him, I was a Masquerader (or Brumingham, as the moderate term is used) for that Party. That is an Imployment, said he, much like to mine; (nothing thought I, but honesty makes the difference.) But being earnest to enter upon my enquiry into this business, I could not tell which way better to excuse my ignorance, and to get an Information from him, than to acquaint him, that though I understood the Design in general, yet as to the particulars I was a Stranger, having been for some

ſome time abſent from Albonia, in parts beyond the Seas. He asked me what Parts? I told him Strombolo, at a General Court of Aſſize there holden by the Sieur Rhadamanthus. His next Queſtion was, Whether any of our Friends were tried there? I told him, Yes, and named ſeveral, as Blancpain, Courthar, Witkſen, &c. all which were (notwithſtanding, the merit of their Services) by the Judges Sentence committed to Purgatory. With that, fetching an heavy ſigh, he replied, That he was afraid the Grand Vicar had deluded them all; and that that would be the place they ſhould all go to. But, ſaid he, rather than I will be hanged up like a Dog for my Services, and then be roaſted in Purgatory after that, I am almoſt in the mind to trie to get to Heaven the new way, and turn Renegade my ſelf. I told him that would be his ſureſt courſe, and mine too, for that there was but little dependance to be had upon the Grand Vicar, I having my ſelf heard him declare, that his *Clavis Cœli* was become uſeleſs, for that the Wards of the Locks had been altered ſince this Plot was deſigned, which I preſumed was upon ſome diſtaſte taken

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in Heaven at it. I hoped by this discourse of mine, that I should fetch the **Devil** of **Rebellion** out of him; but in the mean while, I desired him to give me some short account of their late proceedings; which he did with the **Exordium** of an

Infandum (frater) *jubes renovare dolorem*:
Virg. Æneid.

You are not ignorant, said he to me, what provisions the **Designers** of this **Plot** have made in case of **Discovery**, by shamming off our **Designs** upon the **dissenting** Parties of the **Albonian Christians**; and to set up them for the Criminals in our own room. And having been of late so often detected by the Renegade Discoverers, we thought it high time to set our Designs on foot.

To this end we acquainted some of the **Petropolitan Lords** (now in the **Royal Tower**) with our intentions, who have since their restraint been serviceable to us in many of our designments.

The **Instrument** we pitched upon as most fit for our purpose, was this **Renegade Camperil**, a person (though of broken Fortunes, yet) of ingenious parts,

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a ſubtle head, and profligate enough to attempt any Villany he ſhould be put on.

Our Deſign was broke to him by the Midwife, at whoſe houſe you found us, the Wife of a Franconian Merchant, and ſo zealous a Votary to the Petropolitan Religion, that ſhe declared a courage and reſolution beyond what is uſual in her Sex, in all her actings. This perſon was a great Confident of the Lady Wilſpo's, Wife to one of the Petropolitan Lords, and as zealous in this Cauſe as her ſelf. By whoſe advice and aſſiſtance, the aforeſaid Camperil, after ſome petty trials had of his abilities, was imployed in the Service.

He was then a Priſoner in the Den of Thieves, but upon confidence of the great Services that (when at large) he might do them, the Midwife procured his Liberty; and when afterwards he was again clapt up in the Debtors priſon for Debt, ſhe got him removed into the Royal priſon, where he enjoyed more liberty, and allowed him 20 s. a Week for his maintenance. In this place he was imployed to trappan ſome Priſoners by hard drinking, to get ſomething out of them

them againſt Captain Lobed, which came to nothing; but finding him dextrous in his attempts, they reſolved to free him, that he might be wholly at their devotion; when having compounded his Debts for 700 l. The Midwife paid down the money for him, and ſo diſcharged him out of Priſon. And upon his releaſe, he is by her brought acquainted with the Lady Wiſpo, who well approving of him, provides him Lodging and Money, with promiſes to raiſe his Fortunes. Then acquaints him with the Lord Maintaſtle, who likewiſe approves him.

Then they imploy him to get ſome Petropolitan Prieſts diſcharged out of Priſon.

After that, he is ſent by the Lady Wiſpo with a Pacquet to a Prieſt in the Country, from whom he receives back ſome Papers, which he was to deliver to the ſaid Lady containing the Groundwork of the preſent Plot, That Pamphlets ſhould be writ, and perſons imployed in places of publique Entertainment, to rail againſt the diſſenting Albonian Chriſtians.

Some other Services in which he was imployed by them, before they engaged him in this Plot, were namely theſe: To

To be Tutor under the Lord Maintaſtle (who was their Grand Inſtructor) to the Youths of St. Omers, who were for ſome time kept in cloſe Pickle in the Midwifes houſe, ready for uſe when occaſion ſhould require.

To get two Villains, Knoxius and Elan diſcharged out of Priſon, and to corrupt them to ſwear falſe matters againſt Phileroy, the Renegade and Grand Enemy to our Party, namely Sodomy and Buggery. But this Deſign would not take, but Phileroy, after a Legal Trial, was acquitted.

He was farther to write ſome Pamphlets, and diſpoſe others in the moſt publique Coffee-houſes and places of Entertainment, tending to raiſe Sedition amongſt the People, and eſpecially to incenſe them againſt the Diſſenters. And beſides this, he is imployed in tranſcribing Letters, and forty Liſts of the Names of Perſons, each Liſt containing above 800 Names: which were privately to be diſperſed by our Agents all over Albania, in the houſes of the Chriſtian Diſſenters, and then Searches were afterwards to be made in thoſe houſes upon other pretences; and upon finding

theſe

these dangerous Papers, the Masters of those houses were to be seized for Treason.

He is afterwards sent for to one of the Petropolitan Lords in the Royal Tower, and by him tampered with for a great reward to kill the King. But this he not having courage enough to undertake, he was then (for the reward of 500 l.) put upon killing the little Earl Anthony, a great Enemy to our Party; but this Design, though he undertook, yet never effected.

He is then imployed by the Midwife, in the company of some persons of Quality, to go to one of the Devils Counsellors, one Gad a Petropolitan Stargazer, who was to be consulted by his Art to find out, whether the King should outlive the Great Duke, or the contrary. If it happened the King should survive, then we were to proceed in our Design to dispatch him. And the Conjurer told them that he had discovered by his Scheme, that the Stars had allotted the King the Survivorship, if some violent Fate did not determine his days sooner; and blamed Campertil very severely that he refused himself to kill him, being a person

perſon, as he ſaid, who (upon calculation of his Nativity) he found to be very fit for that purpoſe.

And here Ovipelluvus pauſed a little to refreſh his ſpirits with a Glaſs of Wine, and I in the mean while ſtanding in a profound amazement at theſe myſteries of iniquity, eſpecially at the treachery of this impudent Wizard, diverted my fanſie with theſe Diſtichs on him, and the paſſages of the Treaſon.

To find the Fates *of two* Great Brothers, *he*
Was to inſpect the Book *of* Deſtiny.
The Stars *muſt be made Parties to the* Plot;
‡ *And* Heaven, *call'd in to do what* Hell (*cannot*
‡ Flectere ſi nequeo, &c.
If the Poſſeſſors *life held longeſt date,*
He muſt diſpatched *be by ſome dire* Fate,
To let in a Succeſſor; *but let* Rome,
And all ſuch Wizards *fall, ere that day come.*

CHAP.

CHAP. X.

Ovipellupus *relates at Large the management of the* Meal-Tub Plot, *designed against the principal of the* Albonian Nobility, *and the manner of its* Discovery *by* Camperil: *The* Authors Vision *of the meeting of the* Grand Senate *at* Minerva's City, *where meeting with* Pileroy, *he receives an account from him of some passages relating to the* Plot, *particularly of the* Libel *published by the* Midwife: *Her sentence upon it of a Fine, and to stand three several days in the* Pillory; *She is afterwards (upon new matters) indicted of* High Treason: *The attempt of the* Petropolitans *to assassinate* Arnoldus *a* Magistrate: *The* Assassinates *discovered and punished: An account of the* Bogland Plot: *The impeachment of* Fitzar, *and the difference that arose in the* Grand Senate *about it: The Senate Dissolved: The* Grand Cashier *accused by* Fitzar *of the murther of* Sir Edmond: *A* Shamplot *contrived upon it, and its discovery: The Ghost of* Sir Edmond *appears to the* Author, *gives*

him an account of the Deſign. *The* Concluſion.

WHile I was mumbling over theſe lines (as they came into my mind) ſoftly to my ſelf, I perceived by the fixing of his eyes upon me, that my Companion took notice of it; wherefore to blind the matter, I fell a ratling over my Beads, that he might think I was at my Papers, which put him into the ſame humour; ſo that he began alſo to jumble his Trumpery, and mutter over his Paternoſters very devoutly. Whoſoever had ſeen us in theſe poſtures (upon ſuch a Subject as our laſt was) would have thought that the Spirit of Conjuring had invaded us likewiſe.

Well after our Devotions were over, I deſired Ovipellupus to proceed in his Story: which he did thus;

Having, ſaid he, given you in ſhort ſome accompts of the Exploits of Camperil in this Service, I come now to the main buſineſs, which hath ſo unhappily ſucceeded.

This Shamplot was intended to be fixed chiefly upon the Diſſenters, but was withal to take in the principal Parties

ties of the Christian Nobility and Gentry, against whom we had prepared those that by confident swearing should infallibly maintain our cause against them, and make them the Plotters.

Our Instrument Camperil, having, as I told you before, prepared the way to our design by scattering seditious Papers abroad in the name of the Dissenters, was now (for the perfecting of it) introduced to the Great Duke, to whom (according to the Model of the Design) he related the names of several of the Christian Nobility (the Cambrian Duke being one) that should be concerned in this present Plot.

The Great Duke having rewarded him for his Discovery, brought him to the King, to whom he gave in the same account, and had by his Majesty 40 l. ordered him for a gratuity; after which he sent a Letter to the K. (being at one of his Country Pallaces) with another Wheedle, that the Dissenters held a great correspondence with his Enemies of Belgia.

All this while the management was carried on well, and all things promised fair; there was now no more to do but to make an actual Discovery of the trea-

sonable Papers in some of the Dissenters keeping, and to put the stolen Goods into some honest mens Pockets, that should therefore be charged with them, and clear the Thief of the suspition. And this was contrived by the Lady Wisp to be fixed upon one Colonel Selman, a Christian Gentleman and inveterate hater of our Party. Camperil having found out his Lodgings, goes to take one himself in the same house; and looking up and down amongst the Rooms, takes his opportunity to fix some of his treasonable Papers behind a Beds-head, and then goes and informs some Officers belonging to the Kings Customs, that there were some prohibited Goods concealed in the house, to the value of 20 000l. and taking the opportunity of the Colonels absence, brings them to the place, in order to seize them.

The Officers suspected nothing of Plots or Treasons, but being busie in their Search, and Camperil pretending to be as busie as they in ransacking the Rooms, finds out (what he need not have looked for) the treasonable Papers in the place where he left them, and then makes a hideous out-cry of Treason

The Officers being to ſearch for Goods, and not for Treaſons, take the Papers for the prohibited Goods, and carry them to their Office.

After which Colonel Selman returning to his Lodgings, and being acquainted with theſe paſſages, ſuſpects the Deſign, and enquiring after Camperil, finds that he lodged at the Midwifes houſe, and thereupon gets an Order to bring him before the Royal Council, who examined the buſineſs, and found by the atteſtations of the Witneſſes, that the Deſign was forged by Camperil, who as ſtoutly denied it, and perſiſted to charge the Colonel, but to no purpoſe. Afterwards a Letter was intercepted, which Camperil had writ to the Lady Wilſon, giving her an account of theſe paſſages; by which it appeared that ſhe alſo was a Party concerned in the Deſign.

The Model of our Deſign, and ſome other Papers relating to it, were hid by the Midwife in the Meal Tub that we ſaw lately, but upon ſome unhappy notice given thereof to a Magiſtrate, the ſame were ſoon after found out and ſeized: wherein Commiſſions were feigned to be given out to the Chief of the Chri-

ſtian Nobility for raiſing a Rebellious Army, and other treaſonable matters; all which now ſignified nothing againſt them: for Camperil finding himſelf now trapt in his Deſigns, went before ſome Magiſtrates of the City, and voluntarily made a Diſcovery of the whole Deſign.

This (the ſad Cataſtrophe of our buſineſs) I underſtood by one of the Company where we were, and you ſee how it hath dampt them: for my own part if our Shams ſucceed no better than they have yet done, but that we muſt be contented to be the Traitors our ſelves ſtill, and at laſt be hanged up for our Roguery: I am reſolved to do as Philerop and the reſt have done, and turn Diſcoverer too: Hang it, 'tis better venturing at Preferment in an honeſt way, than to hazard an Halter by the contrary; and with that, filling a brimmer of the conſolating Liquor, he drank to me upon't; and I freely pledged him, telling him, I was clearly of his mind; for I perceived by the bad Succeſſes we have had in all our Attempts hitherto in this Plot, that we did but fight againſt Heaven, which plainly took part againſt us, and would certainly ruine us if we ſtill proceeded; wiſh-

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ing him to perſiſt in his Reſolution, and that when ever he put it into Execution, I my ſelf would accompany him; and upon the ſame account I anſwered his Glaſs to me with another to him; and ſo waſhing down our Sorrows, and having emptied our Bottle, we called for a Reckoning, and departed, not without mutual Aſſurances of a farther Correſpondence to be had betwixt us, (ſo confident was the Shammer of my faithfulneſs to him;) but I was reſolved to be wary my ſelf how I truſted him, leſt I ſhould bring a Sham upon my ſelf. And now my Fancy being releaſed from this Adventure, while I was ſtudiouſly muſing upon the Occurrences of it, I was ſuddenly attacqued by another Extaſie, by the force of which, I was rapt into a moſt pleaſant Country, and within that, to one of the goodlieſt Towns that ever mine Eyes beheld; Scituate upon the Banks of a large and pleaſant River; I underſtood upon enquiry, that this was Minerva's City, our Albonian Athens, and one of the two Seminaries of Learning belonging to this Country. I was glad (methoughts) by this opportunity to ſatisfie my Curioſity with the Delights of this place, which

I had never before seen; and to that end, entring at one of the Gates, I went on, gazing upon the sumptuous and stately Structures of the Colledges and places of Learning; but wondred that I saw so few Schollars in them, but instead of them, to see them filled with great numbers of Illustrious Persons of the Nobility and Gentry, walking with their Swords by their Sides, and Lacquies after them: Many of them had Papers in their hands, which I perceived, that they were busily discourfing about; and the whole Town, I perceived, was very full of People of all Ranks and Qualities. I could not imagine the meaning of this great Convention, till I was soon after resolved by this accident; for happening (in my perambulations) upon a pleasant Garden belonging to one of the Colledges, I entred into it, and taking a private walk within a Grove of Trees, whom should I meet there, but my old Friend Philetus, who admiring to see me there, and to find him out in that solitary place: I resolved him that I came hither I knew not how, and met here I knew not who; but desired him (as he had hitherto been my Intelligencer) to satisfie me what

what was the meaning of this great Assembly; this he promised to do, but before he did that, would needs know of me, what News I could tell him from Londinopolis: To gratifie him in which, I told him what I had heard and seen of the late Adventure of the Meal-Tub, and of my Discourse with Ovipellupus; all which, he told me, he understood before he left Londinopolis, and some other passages relating to that Design he acquainted me, which I knew not before; as that after Campbell had fully made out his Discovery, and thereby detected the several parties concerned in the Design; the Lady Wispo was examined by the Royal Council about it, and upon substantial proofs being convicted of having an hand therein, was by their Order sent a Prisoner to the Royal Tower; and the Conjurer was sent to the Den of Thieves, where he pretended to make a Discovery, impeaching some Persons of quality as concerned with him, and so (said he) by what means I know not, he got at last his Discharge: And as for the Petropolitan Midwife, said Philerap, she so obstinately persisted in Justification of her Practices, that she published a

Book in Vindication of them, and reflecting too much upon the Justice of the Government, in matters relating to this Discovery, she was for this (upon a Trial had for the same) fined the Sum of 1000 *l.* and sentenced to stand three days in the Pillory, which Sentence was accordingly executed upon her in the midst of Thousands of Spectators; who (besides whole vollies of Curses spent upon her) had it not been for a Board that she held in her hand to defend her self with; had certainly brained her before she was taken down; but being by a strong Guard at last delivered from the fury of the Rabble, and carried back to Prison; but a worse misfortune than this soon after befel her; for Camperil and others making out some new Discoveries against her, of a more dangerous consequence, she was thereupon continued in Prison, under no less charge than that of High-Treason against the King and Government. But, said Philerop, (leaving this) heard you nothing in Town of one Arnoldus? I told him no; why then, said he, I will acquaint you with a new Design of the Petropolitans lately acted: This Arnoldus a Magistrate in the Cambrian Coun-

Countries a Loyal Gentleman and great Enemy to the Petropolitans, coming up to Londinopolis to make some Discoveries against them to the Royal Council, was one night late set upon in a narrow Lane by a crew of Ruffians, (Petropolitans all of them) who got him down, and with their Knives had certainly murdered him, had not a Boy with a light accidentally past by, which caused them to fly, and leaving him weltring in his Blood, having cut his Throat from Ear to Ear, but not so mortally, having scaped his Wind-Pipe, but that he afterwards recovered: Two of these Villains were afterwards discovered and brought to Trial; and fined in a great Sum of Money; besides the punishment of standing in the Pillory near to the place where the Fact was committed, where the Guards about them had much ado to preserve him from being torn in pieces by the People, before they could get them back to Prison; their durance for some time in which, was to make up the Consummation of their Punishment.

And now, said Philerop, I shall proceed to satisfie you concerning the great Convention you have observed here.

Here

Here are at this time (by the King's Royal Order) assembled the three grand Estates of the Senate, by him lately called to consider of the arduous affairs of this Kingdom; the former Senate being upon the account of some unhappy differences, arising upon their Proceedings to exclude the Succession of the Great Duke to the Crown of this Kingdom, some time since dissolved; but most of the old Members of that Senate being chosen by the Countries to serve again in this, it is much feared if as their Dictator hath declared, (They are not given to Change) left they should fall upon the same measures they did before, which if they do, will inevitably cause another Dissolution; and all our great hopes of their Proceedings in the Discovery of this Plot, and to bring the Metropolitan Lords to Judgment will be utterly defeated.

And I the rather fear, (said Pilerop) that (notwithstanding all the great and sumptuous Preparations made here for their Reception) their stay here will not be long upon account of another matter which has unhappily fain out.

For, said he, you cannot but know, that

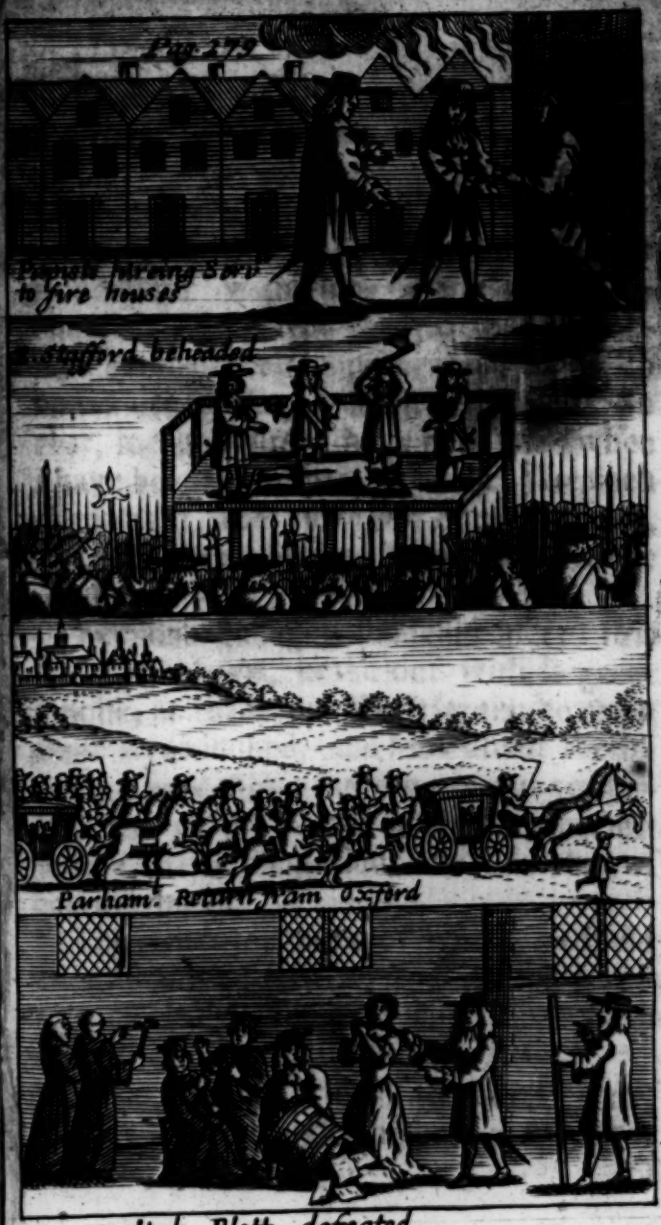
that there has been a great noise made, for some time, of another Plot like to this (if not the same) carried on by the Petropolitans in Bogland, to kill the Vice-Roy of that place, to massacre the Inhabitants, and to cause an Invasion of that Country by the Franconians; several Persons have been seized upon this account, and Informations given to the Royal Council by Witnesses that have come over from that place to give in Evidence against them, who have fully proved the truth of the said Plot; notwithstanding the Petropolitans, according to their old wont, have endeavoured several ways to Sham it off upon the Christians, tho without effect.

Amongst others that have been seized for this Plot, there was one Fitzar notoriously concerned in it, and now a Prisoner in the Royal Tower, who ('tis said) hath, since his being there, discovered things of such a dangerous Consequence to some great Persons, that Endeavours have been made to prevent his farther Proceedings on that kind, by bringing him to speedy Justice, to which end they have obtained the Royal Commission for the trying him by Judges therein specially deputed. But

But the Lower Senate having now notice of it, have endeavoured to prevent that Proceeding by having the matter brought to be examined before themselves, and to that end have preferred an Impeachment against him in the Senate of Lords before whom he appears to stand now chargeable.

And this way of proceeding appearing, as it were, designed to prevent the other, it is much feared, may occasion such misunderstandings as may cause the breaking up of the Session.

And according as Philerop had prognosticated, it unhappily fell out. For within a little time after, I perceived the bright Glory that had for some days made this place Illustrious, to set in a black Cloud of Grief and Amazement; especially to the Townsmen of Minerva's City. The Senate being dissolved, and the Senators all in a bustle preparing for a departure, my nimble Genius out-stript the greatest hast they could make, and lodged me again in fansie at Londinopolis, before any of them could be one foot on the Road towards it.



Mealtub Plott defeated.

of the Kings Great Tribunal, to be there tried for his Treasons, but he refused to own the Jurisdiction of that Court, as standing impeached in the Great Senate, who were a Superiour Jurisdiction.

This Plea of his (though strongly urged by his Advocates) was over-ruled by the Judges, who affirmed their own Jurisdiction, and so proceeded to trie him, and caused him to answer in Court to the Charge against him.

Which having done Fitzar requested of the Judges that he might be examined by some of them in private concerning some matters that he had to reveal to them of this Plot. This his request they granted, and thereupon Fitzar informed them that he had been one concerned in, or at least acquainted with the Murther of Sir Edmond; and that besides other persons, the Grand Cashier himself was a Party concerned in it.

And having taken his Oath of the truth of this matter before the Inquisitors of that Court, they presently drew up a Charge of Murther against the Grand Cashier, who, 'tis expected (it being his own desire) will very suddenly be tried by his

his Peers upon it, although at the same time he stands impeached in the Grand Senate, for Crimes, according to the Albonian Laws, of an higher nature.

But how to blind this Discovery, another piece of Villany is contrived to sham off the credit of it, by hiring one Magar, a Petropolitan Bogslander to give out a Report that Sir Edmond was not murthered (contrary to what the World had hitherto believed) by any but himself, that he had hanged himself with his own hands, but that to save his Estate (which according to the Albonian Laws in such cases is forfeited) Sir Edmonds Brothers had procured him to run him through with his own Sword, and leave him in such manner as is at first mentioned. This Tale he must needs tell first to the Grand Cashier himself, who gets the Constable of the Royal Tower to have the hearing of it; who thereupon sends him to the Royal Council to be examined about it; Before them, at first he very stubbornly persists in affirming the Reports. But while he was in Custody, having leave given him to write a Letter to one of the Royal Secretaries, he together with that, slips a Letter into the Messengers

hands

hands directed to the Petropolitan Midwife (the famous Instrument of of these Designs) acquainting her with what he had done, and desiring to receive new instructions from her. This Letter was by the honest Messenger conveyed to the Royal Council, who upon Examination, charging him with it, he presently owned it; and withall made a free, and (if I may call it so) ingenious Confession of the whole Intrigue, and how he was hired, and by whom, to carry on this sham and Villainous Design.

I was now (methoughts) diverting my self in a solitary place not far from the City, musing upon these matters, when it came into my mind, that as the finding out this execrable Murther was the very Ground-work of our Discoveries, and belief of the Plot; so now we may plainly see the Policy of the Petropolitans, after so many Discoveries made, and their Shams to overthrow them detected, that they should go about to weaken this foundation, so to render our subsequent Informations of the less credit.

But could not these Execrable Villains (thought I with my self) be content

tent to take away the life of that Innocent Gentleman, but they muſt take away his good name too, by making him guilty of their Murther. O Impudence! O Villany in the Abſtract! Whilſt I continued in this Thinking Fit, I was on the ſuddain diverted by the approach of an Apparition towards me; it was different from thoſe infernal ones that I had hitherto been converſant with, being incircled with a Glory that ſpread it ſelf round about like the Rayes of the Sun, and the Luſter thereof rendred its Form (which was that of a comely tall perſon) not onely awful but amiable; its looks were Angel-like, full of Gaiety and Sweetneſs: but withal I perceived a Sword run through his body. He glided towards me with a leiſurely motion, and upon a convenient approach ſtood ſtill, and in a ſweet and delightful air (far more tunable than any mortal breath can expreſs) he ſpake to me in theſe Diſticks.

From bliſsful Shades *and* Springs of Joy *I come*
(Bearing the Signal *of my* Martyrdom;*)*
To thee, (O Mortal;) *I was once the* Man
That firſt oppos'd the Petropolitan
Deſign

Design *against* Albonia, *and for that*
Became the Object *of their vengeful hate.*
For that by their accurſed *hands I fell*
A Martyr *for the* King *and* Commonweal:
This Sword they then ran through my guilt-
(leſs *ſide,*
To make men think by mine own *hands I*
(di'd:
Not ſatisfi'd *to take away my breath,*
But as it were to kill *me after* Death,
They wound my name, *and by prodigious*
(lies,
They make of that *another* Sacrifice;
This they attempt now by a new Deſign
To make my Murther *not their* own, *but*
(*mine.*
But (Mortal) *Go and tell the* World *that I*
Deſerve to have my dying memory
Better eſteem'd. Some guilty bloud they have
As Victims *offered upon my* Grave;
But I'm not yet appeas'd, my Bloud *yet*
(*cries*
For theirs, by whom I fell a Sacrifice.
Tell the World this, and let a Statue *be*
Set up to vindicate my memory.

Upon the cloſe of this I heard a melodious Chore of Raviſhing Voices; which while I was attending to, I perceived the

Ap-

Apparition with a brisk Levatto, to aſcend the Air in a triumphant manner, and then I waked out of my Dream, and fell to my Devotion.

Kind Heav'ns defend our Gracious KING, till he
Shall livingly *refute* Gad's *'Strology,*
And all the other Romiſh Calculations,
Predicting the KING's ruine and the Na-(tions.
Lord let him live beyond the Scheme they (ſet him
I wiſh, and longer too than they would let (him.
Yea let him live ſo long, ſo long, till we
His fam'd Succeſſor ſhall deſire to ſee,
Then ſhall he live unto Eternity.

My Dream is out, I wiſh the Plot were ſo,
And that my Dreaming might no farther (go:
But if provok'd by theſe deſigning men,
'Tis ten to one but I ſhall dream again.

FINIS.

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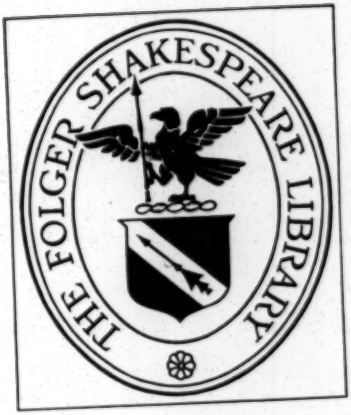

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